



February

The View From The Park

A Newsletter of Faith & Community

February 2021

1st Presbyterian Church on the Park
17 Park Street
Canton, NY 13617

Phone (315) 386-2570
www.ChurchOnThePark.org
Office@ChurchOnThePark.org

Ways To Worship

In-person worship continues and though the numbers in the pews are small, when joined with those watching via the live stream, we have sometimes over 60 worshipping together. We hope you will join us in whatever way feels comfortable. Please know that you also can watch the service afterward on our [YouTube channel](#). On Sundays, after worship, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m, there is **Fellowship time via Zoom**. On Sunday, February 7th, our Annual Meeting will take the place of Fellowship time on Zoom and on Sunday, February 21st, the service will be pre-recorded with no live worship (see Pastor's Report for more details).



See Page 7 For Information About Virtual Worship & Fellowship.

eNewsletter?

If you received a hard copy of this newsletter in the mail but have an email address to which it could be sent, please contact RevMike@ChurchOnThePark.org

Rev. Michael P. Catanzaro..... Pastor
Donna Doig, CLP..... Associate Pastor
Karen Bailey.....Office Coordinator
Jarrett Larson.....Choir Director
Bob Duda.....Assistant Choir Director
Jarrett Larson.....Organist
Michael Walters.....Handbell Choir Director
TBD.....Director of Christian Education
Mary McGreevy.....Treasurer
Patience Boswell..... Sexton
Tom Dildine.....Webmaster
Linda Potter.....Newsletter Editor

Church Office Hrs: 1 - 4 p.m., Mon., Tues. & Thur.

Virtual Annual Meeting

Our **Annual Meeting of the Congregation** will take place on **Sunday, February 7th** at 11:30 a.m. and will be held this year via Zoom. To join the meeting, follow the instructions for the **Zoom Fellowship** call on **page 7**. The Annual Meeting will take the place of our Fellowship call that day. The Annual Reports were sent via email and snail mail. If you need a copy, please contact Rev. Mike. Your presence at this meeting is very important! **We hope to see you.**

Still Time For Per Capita

If you haven't yet paid your **per capita for 2021**, you still have time. Per capita is the amount that the church pays per member to the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly for services provided. For 2021, this amounts to **\$31.00 per active member** or **\$3,038** total (based on 98 members).

You can mail your per capita donation to the church office at 17 Park Street or place in the offering basket. Your donation is **greatly appreciated!**



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Family News

Congratulations to **Katie Bennett** who passed her Road Test (on the first go round) and is now a fully licensed motor vehicle operator in the State of New York! Way to go Katie! (Buckle up everyone.)

Congratulations to Jessica (Brown) and Brian Stumper expecting a baby this winter (grandparents **Mark** and **Nancy Brown**) and Caitlyn (Grant) and Nick Mooney also expecting a baby this winter (grandparents **Colleen** and **Dale Grant**).

Congratulations, also, to Chris and Candice Grant on the birth of their daughter Quinn. Hip, Hip, Hurrah!



Congratulations to Dr. Beverly Bergman, a British citizen and step-mother of **Duncan Melville**, who was awarded Officer of The Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (a very big deal!) for her work with Scottish Veterans. The OBE is a British order of chivalry, rewarding contributions to the arts and sciences, work with charitable and welfare organizations, and public service outside the civil service.

Congratulations to **Drew Franklin** who was named to the All Northern Team for Boys Varsity Soccer as a Goalie. Way to go Drew!!!

Melba Reinke would like everyone to know she now has a new cell phone number: (406) 551-0210.

Nancy Tuttle is now living at the La-Pointe Adult Home, and would surely appreciate cards and notes of support as she adjusts to her new surroundings. Her address is 581 West Road, Hermon, NY 13652.

Thank You "De-Greeners"! We greatly appreciate the efforts of **Mark Erickson**, **Ray Erickson** and **Bob Duda** for "De-Greening" the church, and to **Karen Bailey** for taking down the candlelights in the windows.

Family News - cont.

Prayers for **Christa Lyon** recovering from surgery to remove a mass in her abdomen and who is still experiencing difficulties from her knee replacement surgery (43 Lincoln Street, Canton), and for **Marty Lyon** under care of Hospice.

Prayers of healing for **Kristine Potter** still recovering from more severe symptoms from COVID infection (briefly hospitalized but now back at home) and for Tom and their kids in this difficult time. She is thankful for the donations of food and cards of support. 1609 SH 68, Canton, NY 13617.

Prayers for others in our congregation recovering from COVID, also members of their extended families.

Prayers for **Karen Parker** undergoing therapy to improve her balance; **Bob Fraser** recovering from surgery, and for **Betty Fraser** on the death of her brother David Klem; Rev. **Dick Stone**, former pastor of our church, recovering from COVID at the Canton Nursing Home (Jeanne Stone, 30 Sullivan Drive, Apt. 223, Canton); and **Carrie Whalen** who slipped and fell on the ice fracturing her wrist. Cards & note appreciated: 16 Hull Street, Colton, NY 13625.

Prayers for Francis Regan facing health issues, and his wife Myrtle in support of him; Prayers for **Bill Rodee** who continues to make strides with rehabilitation, and for **Marilyn** in support of him; and, prayers for **Marilyn Rodee** on the death of her big brother, Baker Elliott, who had turned 96 in December.

Prayers for **Tom Dildine** recovering from pace-maker implant surgery and subsequent full cardiac ablation; and for **Kimberly Dildine** facing similar health issues associated with an irregular heart rhythm.

More News On Pg. 3

More Family News

Continued prayers for **Nicholas Boswell** recovering well from kidney transplant surgery, and for **Patience, Cameron** and **Aubrey**.

Prayers also for **Beth Hayes**, whose brother, Don Whitney, died after a protracted illness; Josee Merlini, mother of **Patrick LaPierre**, facing significant health issues, and for Patrick as he tries to support her; and prayers for **all the children of our church, and their parents**, struggling to balance school, work and family lives.



Prayers for Jodie Upton, sister of **Susan Akins**, who is being treated for cancer; Marie MacMaster, and her sons **David** and Ron as they seek to provide appropriate care for her as she ages; **Bill Gollinger** on the deaths of his aunt and uncle, Lillian and Bob Gollinger, in a house fire; for Andrew Putman (friend of **Jean & Pat McGuire**) recovering from a stroke; and **Mary Rexford** recovering from a fractured pelvis following a fall.

Prayers for Art Zanta, brother of **Carolyn Zanta**, who was just diagnosed with stage 4 esophageal cancer; Greg Richard, **Ray Erickson's** daughter Meredith's step-father-in-law; recovering from surgery to remove a brain tumor, and for **Josh Ashton** (Meredith's husband) recovering from spinal surgery and facing a long recovery; and for Kathy Holbrook, sister-in-law of **Josh Holbrook**, who was diagnosed with breast cancer last year and treated, but is experiencing significant side-effects.

Prayers also for **Patience Boswell**, and all the staff and residents of the Canton Nursing Home.

Continued

Family News - cont.

Prayers for Courtney Riley and her family on the tragic death of her sister Catherine (age 24) who died in her sleep from a heart attack at their family home in Vermont.

Courtney, along with **Ellen & Rich Grayson's** granddaughter (also named Courtney) attended our church for several years while attending SUNY Canton.



Both have gone on to careers as medical doctors. Cards may be sent to Nathan and Courtney Riley Hibler, 203 Lefebvre Rd., Randolph VT 05060.

Prayers for **Tucker Catanzaro** as he continues to recover from Lyme Disease.

Prayers for kids, families and students, teachers, professors and staff as school and classes at the local schools and colleges have resumed.

Prayers for all those working in the medical field, on the frontlines of the fight against COVID; in particular **Erin Casey, Vicki McLain, Colleen Grant** and **Jodi Falardeau**.

Need Help With Your Vaccine?

The **Deacons** have graciously offered to help the older members of our congregation to get them **signed-up** online to receive a vaccine and, if necessary, arrange to **drive** them to their appointment. If you don't have internet access, have had difficulty signing up, or would appreciate a ride to the vaccination site, please contact **Rev. Mike**. Thankfully, it seems that most have either had their first dose, or are scheduled to receive, but we want to be sure everyone gets vaccinated.

Church Attendance

	In-Person	Live Stream
January 3	8	37
January 10	10	39
January 17	7	41
January 24	13	50
January 31	9	52

Average In-Person Attendance: 9

Average Live-Stream Attendance: 44

Treasurer's Report

	Operating	Mission
January 31	\$2,039.00	\$250.00

Thank you for all those who are able to make pledges and gifts to the church. We are able to pay our bills & provide care to our community. Your generosity is appreciated.

Deacons' Offering

A reminder that though most folks are worshipping via the live-stream, we are still receiving the Deacons' Offering the **first Sunday** of every month. This is a vital component of our church's work and mission. Please remember to send along a contribution to the Deacons along with your pledge or regular offering. **Thank you!**

YOUR GIVING MATTERS!

Thank You Elders & Deacons

Profound thanks to Deacons **Arvilla Aldous** and **Vicki McLain** for their contributions to the Board of Deacons; and **Keli Hollis** and **Janice Reynolds** for their contributions to the Session. We are very grateful for their service, leadership and energy given on behalf of our congregation!



Officers & Committees

Elders

To strengthen and nurture the faith and the life of the congregation.

Rich Grayson	Patrick LaPierre	Martha Cole
Pat Mace	Keli Hollis	Ellen MacMaster
Beth Hayes	Tom Dildine	Pat McGuire
Janice Reynolds	Bill Parker	Gordy Theisen
Janet Stitt - Clerk Of Session		

Deacons

Ministering to the sick, those in need, the friendless, and those in distress.

Arvilla Aldous	Susan Akins	Ellen Grayson
Vicki McLain	Georgia Vose	Marilyn Coir
Nancy Brown	Bob Duda	Michelle Theisen
Jean McGuire	Stacie Olney-LaPierre	

Committees

Chairs

Resources Jim Franklin & Keli Hollis
Responsible for managing and dispensing funds to fulfill the mission & ministry of our church.

Facilities Rich Grayson, Gordy Theisen & Beth Hayes

Responsible for the maintenance and use of all church property.

Fellowship Ellen Grayson, Pat Mace & Beth Hayes

Responsible for all fellowship events.

Nominating Bill Parker, Ellen Grayson & Barb Brown

Responsible for filling Session, Deacons & Offices.

Education Beth Hayes

Responsible for growth, nurturing & learning.

Worship TBD

With pastor, responsible for worship.

Stewardship Patrick LaPierre

Responsible for securing resources and energy to fulfill the mission & ministry of our church.

Mission Martha Cole

Helping our church, community & world.

Treasurer Mary McGreevy

Financial Secretaries Barry Walch
Janice Reynolds

Church & Community JJ Jockel
& Sean Boutin

Communion Pat Mace & Vicki McLain

Personnel Pat Mace & Tom Dildine

The Pastor's Report

Welcome February! I know, a bit of a stretch in terms of an exciting new development, but at this point we are going to muster every reason for celebration which comes our way.

Actually, there is quite a bit to be excited about right now. With the help of the Deacons, we've been calling around to the older members of our congregation to make sure they either have had their (first) vaccination or are scheduled to receive it. That is a very big deal. Knock on wood, this means there is great likelihood that our congregation will weather the viral storm without a life lost to it. No small thing. Certainly, we have all been significantly impacted, some much more than others. Though we are all feeling a little squirrely right about now here in the depths of winter (I know I am) all and all we should be proud of the way we've handled this ordeal; especially you parents out there, and those living alone. Good for you. Good for us.

This Sunday, we'll be holding our annual meeting of Congregation (via Zoom) and in preparation we've sent out the Annual Reports (if you didn't receive one and would like a copy, please email me). Though our activity level is certainly down, the vibrancy and resilience of our congregation shines through. I'm certainly pleased and proud by the effort we've all put in to adapt, adjust and continue undaunted in our life together.

This month, I'd like to ask for your indulgence and assistance in an important matter. Though further exacerbated by the pandemic, over the span of the last year or so it has become increasingly difficult to secure someone

to lead worship and preach in my absence (so much so, that I'm carrying three unused weeks of vacation time into 2021). In an effort to get a break, and with the concurrence and support of the Session, Jarrett and I will be pre-recording a worship service and sermon to be posted on our YouTube channel Sunday February 21st. This means there will be no live worship on that Sunday and the live-stream of the service will be necessarily non-interactive (though the "Chat" feature will still be available, as will the 11:30 a.m. Zoom fellowship opportunity).

However, this is only a short-term solution to a long term challenge. What would really help remedy this situation is to have folks from the congregation lead worship and preach. Now, before any of you remove yourself from considering such a thing, I will remind everyone that this is not rocket science. Yes, the public speaking aspect is a challenge, but we are an incredibly supportive and understanding church (I would have the bulletin done, and the order of worship articulated step by step). As for preaching, I'm convinced everyone has at least one good sermon in them. Really, it is just a matter of speaking from the heart, to the hearts.

Rich and Ellen Grayson have already volunteered to preach and lead us in worship on May 16th (to attend our son Tucker's college graduation...THANK YOU). I would like ask each of you to consider if you might be willing to lead worship and/or give the sermon at some point in the coming year. The Spirit moves in strange and mysterious ways, especially when beckoned to do so.

In the beckoning, Rev. Mike

"To me, the very least of all saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unfathomable riches of Christ, and to bring to light what is the administration of the mystery which for ages has been hidden in God who created all things."
- Ephesians 3:8-9

FEBRUARY Birthdays

- 1 Jonathan Witherhead
- 3 Debra St. Hilaire,
Andrew Sutherland
- 5 Heidi Ames, Patrick LaPierre
- 6 Gail Abplanalp
- 7 Natasha Rossiter;
Mikey Athanasakis
- 8 Scott Smalling
- 10 Johnny Mousaw
- 11 Michelle Theisen
- 12 Clifford Rossiter
- 13 Marilyn Coir
- 14 Hannah Powers
- 15 Terisa Billings
- 16 Patrick Dean
- 17 Elliott Rodee, Matt Gayle
- 19 Arvilla Aldous, Vanessa Mousaw
- 20 Isabelle Powers,
Thomas Potter, Jr.
- 21 Emily Dawley; Sarah Franklin
- 22 John Miller III, Richard Stone,
Bill Gollinger
- 23 Hope Irene Bethel, Lora Gibson
- 24 Luke Hollis Elvy, Corinne Duda
- 25 Margaret Alexander, Rob Ewy,
Nancy O'Shaughnessy,
Kevin O'Connell
- 26 Isaiah Davis
- 27 Barbara McCoy
- 28 Melissa Compeau,
Dr. Curt Ross. Josh Smith

Contact the church office with your birthday so we can keep our list current!

Pastoral Care

With face-to-face conversations a challenge, please know that Rev. Mike is available at *anytime* to talk about about matters both large or small.

He can be reached on his cell phone at (716) 857-0111 for voice or FaceTime video chat, or through Skype at revmike70, or via a ZOOM chat in his "meeting room" accessed through this link <https://zoom.us/j/6360764407>, or email at RevMike@ChurchOnThePark.org

February Lectionary Readings

Sunday, February 7

Isaiah 40:21-31
Psalm 147:1-11, 20c
1 Corinthians 9:16-23
Mark 1:29-39



Transfiguration of the Lord - February 14

2 Kings 2:1-12
Psalm 50:1-6
2 Corinthians 4:3-6
Mark 9:2-9

Ash Wednesday - February 17

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isa. 58:1-12
Psalm 51:1-17
2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10
Matt. 6:1-6, 16-21

First Sunday in Lent - February 21

Genesis 9:8-17
Psalm 25:1-10
1 Peter 3:18-22
Mark 1:9-15

Second Sunday in Lent - February 28

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16
Psalm 22:23-31
Romans 4:13-25
Mark 8:31-38

Let The Wild Rumpus Start!

The **Annual All-Church Read** will take place on **Sunday, March 21st** and this year's book is ***Where The Wild Things Are*** by Maurice Sendak. A hard cover copy of the book will be gifted to every family in the church with young children. Those young at heart can find a copy at the local library or watch the 2009 movie based on the book. We are planning for a wild rumpus and hope you will join us!



Way To Go!

Congratulations to **Dr. Keli Hollis** and **Phil Elvy** who have now completed the transition of assuming the dental practice previously owned by Curt Ross. A very big deal for them, and a very long road for Keli we're sure.



We Need Your Help!

Our **birthday/anniversary calendar** for the church had a hiccup and was showing wrong dates for people. To help us, please send the birthdays and/or anniversaries for all in your house to the [church office](#). Thanks!

*Saving
Grace*

For food in a world
where many walk in hunger;
For faith in a world
where many walk in fear;
For friends in a world
where many walk along,
We give you thanks, O God.

Virtual Worship & Fellowship

For live-streaming, fellowship, bulletins, sermons newsletter and other resources, **begin by bookmarking the church website:** www.ChurchOnThePark.org. "Click" on the relevant link at the top of the page.

A **live-stream** of the worship service is on the church's YouTube Channel. Go to www.ChurchOnThePark.org and click on "YouTube Channel." You can choose to subscribe to our channel or simply go to this link each week.

Zoom Fellowship calls each Sunday from **11:30 a.m. to Noon** for fellowship only with no format or moderator. If needed, download the ZOOM app ahead of time by clicking on this link (free):

<https://zoom.us/download>. Once you have the Zoom app, go to www.ChurchOnThePark.org and click on "Sunday Zoom Meeting". You will be asked to enter a password which is **3862570** (the phone number of the church). The meeting will automatically begin at 11:30 a.m. & end at 12:45 p.m.

Worship bulletins are posted earlier in the week to the church website for those worshipping virtually through the stream on our YouTube channel. This will allow everyone the opportunity to follow the liturgy, and see the announcements and prayer requests. Go to www.ChurchOnThePark.org and click on "Sunday Bulletin."

Written sermons will continue to be emailed, or snail-mailed, on *Monday* to everyone each week; as well as being posted to the church website. Go to www.ChurchOnThePark.org and click on "Written Sermons."

The monthly **Newsletter** will continue to be emailed to most, and snail-mailed to a few; as well as being posted to the church website (click on "Newsletter").

Prayer Warriors

Would you like to help your neighbor, stretch spiritually and be a part of the mystical movement of the church? We are always looking for new prayer warriors to join the church

Prayer Chain to offer prayers for folks who are ill, troubled or in need.

If you want to learn more about the prayer chain, call **Rev. Mike** at 386-2570 or **Wanda Renick** at 386-3474.



Photo Directory

A newly up-dated Photo Directory is available online through the church website <https://churchonthepark.org>. From the Home Page click on the link to **Church Photo Directory** in the menu at the top. This will take you to a new page which will prompt you to type in the password. Type in **PeopleonthePark17** and the photo directory will appear. We will endeavor to keep this online version as up-to-date as possible. If you have been inadvertently omitted, would like to be included or would like a retake, please contact **Rev. Mike** or **Keli Hollis**.

Presbyterian Worship

The monthly service at Partridge Knoll are **on hold until further notice**. Like other United Helpers' facilities, Partridge Knoll is closed to visitors while virus cases are on the increase. Please keep all the residents and staff in your prayers.



Like Us On Facebook!

The Church On The Park has a **Facebook page** which changes regularly - <https://www.facebook.com/TheFirstPresbyterianChurchonthePark>

Church Website



Our Website is updated each month and is a great way to stay a part of the life of the church. If you have questions about, or contributions for the website please email our Webmaster Tom Dildine: tdildine@gmail.com

The Church's email address:

office@ChurchOnThePark.org

Reverend Mike's email address:

RevMike@ChurchOnThePark.org

Sermons & Services

Written Sermons in PDF format are now available for viewing or downloading on Monday at www.ChurchOnThePark.org then click on "Written Sermons."

If you'd like to have a copy of the weekly sermon emailed or snail-mailed to you directly, please contact RevMike@ChurchOnThePark.Org.

A **video recording** of the Sunday worship service will be available for viewing the week following broadcast. Go to www.ChurchOnThePark.org and click "YouTube Channel."

Newsletter Deadline Is The 15th Of The Month

We are still sending out the monthly newsletter! Please submit articles (emailed preferably) to the church office, or directly to the News letter Editor, Linda Potter, at:

nautilus@twcny.rr.com

Hello, my name is...

Name Tag Sunday is on hold for now but you can still get to know your church friends.

Use the **church Photo Directory** and send a note to say **hello!**

Food For Fellowship

Even with a vaccine now available for certain people, the pandemic is still hard on all of us with social isolation compounded by winter weather, an increase in COVID cases within our community and affecting our church, and families who must continue to find new ways to balance work, home and remote learning. **We want to make things a little easier by providing a meal.** In return, we ask that you **“pay it forward”** and send greetings to a church member who may be homebound or simply someone who would appreciate hearing from a friend.

Food For Fellowship will be on Tuesday, February 23rd. A meal of soup, home-made bread/muffins, and dessert will be available with gluten-free options for each menu item. It can be **picked up** at the church or **delivered** to your home. Along with the meal, you will receive **notecards** with addressed, stamped envelopes for other members of your church family. Sign the card, have the kids illustrate it and pop it in the mail. Food For Fellowship.

The soups offered will be **Cheesy Vegetable Chowder** (gluten-free) and **Beef Pasta Soup**. There also is the choice of **Italian Bread** or **gluten-free Corn Muffins** along with **regular cookies** or **gluten-free cookies**. You can place an order for the number of **quarts of soup** that you would like (you can try both) and the type of **bread** and **cookies** for your meal by contacting **Linda Potter** at nautilus@twcny.rr.com or texting her at 315-229-8886. She also will be contacting families with children directly.

Volunteers are needed! If you are interested in baking loaves of **bread** to accompany the soup or making homemade **brownies** or **cookies** for the dessert or can help **deliver** meals on **February 23rd**, contact Linda.

Food for Families * Fellowship With Your Church Family

Gettysburg JROTC GoFundMe

Michael Athanasakis (now retired from the Army, and working Gettysburg PA with Teanna and the kids) is raising money to help take his large crop of Junior ROTC members on an educational trip to Normandy this summer. A life-changing event for this young men and woman to be sure. If you'd like to make a contribute, go to https://www.gofundme.com/f/gettysburg-high-army-jrotc-wwiinormandy-trip?utm_source=customer&utm_medium=copy_link&utm_campaign=p_cf+share-flow-1



Thanks for Pantry Help!

Thanks to **Mark Brackett** for purchasing and stacking food and sanitary items for our church food pantry, and his hockey companions Bill DeCoteau and Joe Erlichman (both biology professors at SLU and good guys) for collecting food and cash donations around the holiday in lieu of the annual Skate With Santa event they put on each year (not possible this Christmas due to COVID). These guys have frequently supported our church's food pantry in this way over the years, and are some **good dudes**.



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17 Park Street
Canton, NY 13617

Address Service Requested

The Church is charged for every returned Newsletter. If you have moved, or changed a seasonal address,
please notify the church office. Thank you.

Virtual Annual Meeting - February 7th
Food For Fellowship - Feb. 23rd
Vaccine Help From Deacons
Per Capita for 2021
All Church Read
Family News



The Mission of the First Presbyterian Church of Canton to reach out to all people
and welcome them in celebrating truly the joys, freedoms and responsibilities
that come with our faith in God, Christ's unconditional love for us,
and the power of the Holy Spirit to transform our world.
Through this nurturing Christian Community
we will fully recognize the value of each believer,
humbly forgive ourselves and others, and lovingly embrace God's Grace.