



The View From The Park

A Newsletter of Faith & Community

January 2023

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

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

Sundays in January

• **Worship Begins At 10:00 a.m.** •

• January 1st •

No Communion
Rev. Mike Off
Chris Remick to Preach
No Church School or Choir
Deacons & Food Shelf Offering



• January 8th •

Baptism of the Lord
Bring A Friend To Church
De-Greening of the Church after Worship



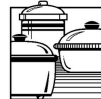
• January 15th •

Name Tag Sunday
Noisy Can Offering



• January 22nd •

Potluck Lunch In Honor of Lorna Webb
Following Worship
Dedication of "Lorna's Lounge"



• January 29th •

National Puzzle Day
(Bring Your Pencil To Church!)



Rev. Michael P. Catanzaro..... Pastor
Donna Doig, CLP..... Associate Pastor
Andrea Montgomery..... Church School Director
Jarrett Larson..... Organist and Choir Director
Bob Duda..... Assistant Choir Director
Emily & Kate Ewy..... Nursery Care Providers
Lynne HunterBeach..... Office Coordinator
Patience Boswell..... Sexton
Cameron Boswell..... Stream Master
Linda Potter..... Newsletter Editor
Mary McGreevy..... Treasurer

Office Hours: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Tues. & Thursday

Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars! Our **Annual Meeting of the Congregation** will take place on **Sunday, February 5th** following worship in Fellowship Hall. The **deadline to receive annual reports is Thursday, January 12th.** This will give us enough time to assemble the reports and make them available to the congregation.



ANNUAL MEETING

Celebrating Lorna

Unable to properly fete **Lorna Webb** at the time of her death due to COVID, following worship on **Sunday, January 22nd** we will be holding a potluck meal in **celebration of her life** and hosting **Bill** and his family who are coming in from far and wide. There will be an opportunity for **remembering** and **celebrating** her life (get your stories ready). Rev. Mike will lead everyone on his guitar in singing Lorna's favorite hymn, "**In The Garden**", and we will formally dedicate "**Lorna's Lounge**" at the conclusion. Afterwards, folks are invited to take a look at this new and lovely space in our church (formerly the Arts and Crafts Room, and before that the old Church Office) which Lorna would have absolutely loved. **Please bring a large dish to share** (and your own table service if possible).

In Loving MEMORY

Family News

Prayers for **Bill Rodee** now under the care of Hospice, and for **Marilyn Rodee** and their family as they care for Bill and each other. Meals, cards and visits greatly appreciated and welcomed; 5431A CR 27, Canton NY 13617.

Prayers for **John** and **Anne Goetze**, church folk living in Florida, as Anne has been moved to an Assisted Living Facility near John. Her address is: Starling at San Jose, 9075 San Jose Blvd., Room 13, Jacksonville, FL 32257. Cards from old friends would sure be appreciated in this difficult time of transition. John continues to reside at: 405 Central Mariner Dr., Edgewater, FL. 32141.



Prayers for **Martin Syvertsen** recovering from surgery, and **Vicki McLain** in support of him (6578 CR 27, Canton NY 13617).

Prayers of comfort for **Mark** and **Nancy Brown** and their family, the **Boswell** family and **Casey/Basford/Rodee** family as they continue to mourn loved ones during the holidays.

Prayers for **Bill Parker** at home recovering from surgery, and for **Karen** facing continued health challenges. Cards appreciated (17 State Street, Canton, NY 13617).

Prayers for **Josh Holbrook** and his family on the death of his grandmother, Marcela Butler, after a long-time battle with cancer.

Prayers for **Nick Scelzi** facing continued health challenges; for **Colleen Grant** for healing and wholeness, and husband **Dale** in support of her, (55 Bird Street, Canton, NY 13617); for **Rhonda Walch** who continues to heal and rehab from a broken bone in her foot; for Jody Upton, sister of **Susan Akins**, being treated for a reoccurrence of cancer; and **Roger McBath**, a resident at the Canton Nursing Home.

Family News - cont.

Congratulations to First-year St. Lawrence University student **Abhisheka (Abhi) David** who was named Liberty League Rookie of the Week! Abhi earned her first career win in this past week-end's match against No. 12 Tufts. Abhi, who occupied the number one spot, lost the opening game of her match 11-8 to her opponent before storming back to take the next two 11-7, and 12-10. The final game was a back-and-forth affair with the newcomer securing the 11-9 win for her first win in Scarlet and Brown.



Mary Kelly joined friends for a recent *Santa Fun Run* which ended with hot chocolate shared in front of the church. Mary was thrilled to share the hospitality of her church with a festive group which included a one-month old.



Greetings From Melba

Prior to Christmas Rev. Mike enjoyed a long chat with dear church member **Melba Reinke** now living in Montana close to her son, Carl. Melba is doing well and sends her warm regards to everyone here on the Park, and wishes us all the best in the new year. Melba would love to hear from old friends. Her address is: 2219 West Oak Street Apt. 218, Bozman, MT 59718.

Update On Christa

Christa Lyon would like to thank everyone who has provided her meals in December, and let you know how much she appreciates the care and support (and **Jim Durham** coming to check on her furnace; all good). Christa will begin a new round of treatment in January, and would appreciate prayers for effectiveness.

Friend and church member, **Arvilla Aldous**, will continue to arrange for meals to sustain her in this challenging time. If you'd like to help provide a meal, or part of a meal, please contact Arvilla at (315) 386-8327. Please keep Christa in your prayers in this challenging time. Cards may be sent to her at 43 Lincoln Street, Canton NY 13617. Thank you!

Joining The Church

We are very excited to be welcoming three new members to our congregation in the new year. Additionally, Rev. Mike will be offering a short (40 minute) New Member Class and **he invites anyone interested in joining the church, or who may have questions about membership, to speak to him.** Though we all *belong* to this church, becoming an "official" member creates a covenant between the individual and the church, signifies a further step in one's spiritual journey, and expands the leadership pool from which we draw upon for Elders and Deacons. Also, if there are parents interested in having their child Baptized, please speak to Rev. Mike.

Parents! Grandparents!

Shout out and **share** the word about your kids and grandkids with your church family! Send in their **accomplishments** and **achievements** to the church office (315) 386-2570 or office@ChurchOnThePark.org

Poinsettias & Cookies

Great thanks to congregation for all the Christmas cookies they baked to be gifted to folks at home, along with a poinsettia, all of which were delivered by the

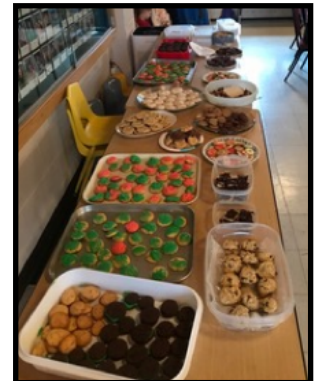
Deacons of our church. We appreciate the leadership of the Deacons for their tender outreach of support and affection.



Thanks also to

Ben Bartley and **Faye** coordinating the mixing and matching the cookies so each of the 23 people were able to enjoy a nice assortment. We received a great deal of feedback from folks who appreciated the flowers and sweets, certainly, but more so for being so fondly remembered by their church family at Christmas.

Further thanks to **Beth Hayes, Aubrey Boswell, Maria Franklin, Sophia Smalling** and **Whitney Courson** for baking Christmas cookies to share with the congregation after the potluck on the 11th.



A great many folks were able to take home a wide variety of tasty cookies and we are tremendously grateful for their efforts! **We are making a positive impact on each other's lives!**

2023 Per Capita

Our **notice of apportionment** from the Presbyterian Church (USA) for 2023 amounts to **\$31 per active member** to be paid on or before February 1st. If you are able to include a Per Capita donation during January, it would **significantly** help our 2023 budget. Thank you!

Church Attendance

	In-Person	Stream	CS
December 4	68	38	19
December 11	93	50	Pageant - 23
December 18	50	50	No CS

Average In-Person Attendance: 69
Average Live-Stream Attendance: 46
Average CS Attendance: 21

Treasurer's Report

	Operating	Mission
November 29	\$6,576.29	\$940.00
December 4	\$1,577.00	\$895.00
December 11	\$1,045.00	\$ 71.10
December 18	\$5,105.00	\$290.00
Total:	\$14,303.29	\$2,196.10

Guest Preacher

Rev. Mike will be on vacation on **Sunday, January 1, 2023**. **Chris Remick** will preach and lead worship that day as we enter the new year.



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

Name Tag Sunday Returns

Name Tag Sunday returns the **third Sunday** of every month! **Name tags** and **markers** will be on the table in the foyer when you arrive. Put one on and get to know one another!

Deacon's Offering

A reminder with worship in-person and via the live-stream, we are still receiving the Deacon's 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 Deacon's along with your pledge or regular offering. **Thank you!**

Officers & Committees

Elders On Session

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

Rich Grayson Patrick LaPierre Martha Cole
Patricia Mace Barry Walch Jim Franklin
Beth Hayes Heidi Ames Pat McGuire
Michelle Quinell-Gayle Michelle Theisen
Patricia Mace - Clerk Of Session

Board of Deacons

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

Christa Lyon Georgia Vose Mark Brackett
Nancy Brown Susan Akins Jane Cable
Stacie Olney-LaPierre
Jean McGuire Ellen Grayson
Secretary Moderator
Ray Erickson, Treasurer *Ex Officio*

Committees

Chairs

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

Facilities Barry Walch & 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 JJ Jockel, Mark Erickson, Rich Grayson - Chair
Responsible for filling Session, Deacons & Offices.

Church School Beth Hayes
Responsible for growth, nurturing & learning.

Worship Michelle Quinell-Gayle
With pastor, responsible for worship.

Communion Pat Mace & Vicki McLain

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

Mission Michelle Theisen
Helping our church, community & world.

Treasurer Mary McGreevy

Financial Secretary Barry Walch

C&C Program JJ Jockel, Sean Boutin & Susan Akins

Personnel Pat Mace, Patrick LaPierre & Michelle Quinell-Gayle

The Pastor's Report

Happy New Year everyone! Before we ring in the new, however, great thanks for making the previous year so wonderful for our church.

Thanks to those who made December so special: to our Christian Education Director Andrea Montgomery, Choir Director Jarrett Larson, the members of the Choir, all those who helped with the Greening of the Church, leading worship, baking cookies, the Deacons for delivering poinsettias and cookies, contributing to the potluck and, especially, to all of the kids of our church for their most excellent Christmas Pageant. What fun it was to see the kids singing, speaking and grinning ear to ear!

A heart-felt thank you to all the folks who made a pledge, and to all of you who support the church with or without making a pledge. Our Stewardship Drive is on target and we will move into the new year on a solid fiscal footing. Thanks to those living near, and those living far away, for your financial support of our church.

I am extremely humbled by the great outpouring of donations to fund our annual Christmas Giving Program. Through gifts made to the Deacons, the Mission Budget, the Pentecost, One Great Hour of Sharing and Farm Family Offerings, Pastor's Discretionary Fund as well as individual gifts made to the church for this purpose, we were able to provide over \$8,500 to 56 families in our community. Your generosity is humbling, and inspiring. Thanks also to

Marilyn Rodee for her leadership in making the Farm Family Offering happen.

Particular to thank the congregation for the "spiritual durability" it has shown these past few years through COVID. Sometimes the notion of what a church *really* is gets lost in what we assume a church *should* be. Make no mistake, in being who we *are*, we have accepted a daunting challenge to truly place the Gospel at the heart of our faith community. We are an incredibly diverse group of people in just about every way: theologically, socially, politically and in terms of stage of life; and yet, the center holds. I appreciate the efforts of each one of you in finding *your* place here, and supporting others as they too find *their* place. People often ask me, "*What can we do to save/change the world?*" I think the first step is for us to ensure that our church is healthy, authentic and growing in depth of purpose. The rest, in all the beautiful and creative forms it may take, will surely follow. Planting seeds can require some really hard work, and necessitate a fair bit of patience toward ourselves and others (as you well know). The rewards, though, are enormous; and enormously satisfying, as well.

Finally, let us open our eyes and our hearts to the good things God has planned for us in the new year, as we bring hope and comfort to our own lives, the lives of those around us, and to all the world.

- Rev. Mike

You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity,
which will produce thanksgiving to God through us. - 2 Corinthians 9:11

JANUARY Birthdays

- 4 Max Athanasakis
- 7 Karen McAuliffe, Maria Peacock
- 8 Beth Ann Russell, Emily Ames
- 9 Amanda Peacock
- 10 Jim Robertson
- 13 Lauren Smith, Kimberly Dildine
- 15 Rance Bell
- 17 Nathan Gibson
- 20 Gerard & Michaela Powers
- 21 Daniel Gordon
- 26 Bob Fraser, Walter Brown
- 27 Allyson Janack
- 28 Charles "Chuck" Alexander
- 30 Ryan McAuliffe

JANUARY Anniversaries

- 4 Rance & Kelly Davis,
Jack & Margaret Wylie
- 20 Gerard & Michaela Powers

Christmas Giving Recap

Great thanks to the entire congregation, and friends both near and far, for your tremendous generosity this year in supporting our annual Christmas Giving Program; especially the response to the Farm Family Offering. This year, our church was able to distribute **\$8,500** of Christmas cheer to **56 families** here in Canton and the surrounding area which includes **\$2,200** for Farm Families, **\$4,000** for families with school-age children as well as a host of others including a family who lost their home to fire, and in purchasing biblical reference books for the chaplain's ministry at Bare Hill prison in Malone. Begun in 2002, over the past 20 years our annual Christmas Giving Program has provided over **\$133k** to *hundreds* of families at Christmas. **We are an amazing congregation with glad and generous hearts!**

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

January Lectionary Readings

January 1

Isaiah 61:10—62:3
Psalm 148
Galatians 4:4-7
Luke 2:22-40

Epiphany of the Lord - January 6

Isaiah 60:1-6
Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14
Ephesians 3:1-12
Matthew 2:1-12

Baptism of the Lord - January 8

Isaiah 42:1-9
Psalm 29
Acts 10:34-43
Matthew 3:13-17



January 15

Isaiah 49:1-7
Psalm 40:1-11
1 Corinthians 1:1-9
John 1:29-42

January 22

Isaiah 9:1-4
Psalm 27:1, 4-9
1 Corinthians 1:10-18
Matthew 4:12-23

January 29

Micah 6:1-8
Psalm 15
1 Corinthians 1:18-31
Matthew 5:1-12

Women's Circle

Women's Circle will meet on Wednesday, **January 11th** at 7 p.m. in Lorna's Lounge with the topic of ***Favorites (What is your favorite book, food, hymn, place to be, etc.)***. All women

of the church are welcome. To learn more, contact Linda Potter at nautilus@twcny.rr.com.



Evening Book Group

The Evening Book Group will meet on **Tuesday, January 24th** at 7 p.m. in Lorna's Lounge to discuss **Rebecca** by Daphne Du Maurier with the discussion led by **Vicki McLain**. All are welcome.

Photos & Updates

As a **growing congregation**, one of the significant challenges we face as is simply getting to know each other, especially all of the **kids** we have in the church. Come the new year, we will be taking, and updating, **photos** for the **Photo Directory** and **Picture House** located in Fellowship Hall. We would also like to take **individual photos** of the kids, and give them their own photo directory and photo space so everyone can learn their names and become more involved in their lives. Given how fast kids grow, this will need to stay a “work in progress” but we’d like to make a big push in January as one of this year’s winter project.

Church Photo Directory



Saving Grace

Glad and joyful let us be,
God hath fed us plenteously;
Sower, reaper, both rejoice,
Lifting up a thankful voice.
Lord of harvest,
Thee we praise,
Unto Thee our song we raise;
Thou art great,
and Thou art good;
Filling all the earth with food.
For our garners stored with grain,
Come we now with thanks again.

- Robert Maguire

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>. One 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 worshiping 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 continue to be emailed, or snail-mailed, on *Tuesday* 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

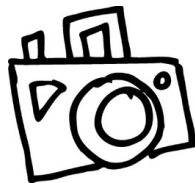
Prayer Chain to offer prayers for folks who are ill, troubled or in need.

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



Photo Directory

Our Photo Directory is no longer available online through the website. If you would like a copy (print or digital), please contact Rev. Mike or the church office and we'd be happy to send one with you. We endeavor to keep the photo directory as up-to-date as possible. If you find that you have been inadvertently omitted, would like to be included or would like a retake, please contact **Rev. Mike** or **Keli Hollis**. Updates easily done.



Presbyterian Worship

Partridge Knoll services are held through the winter on the **1st Wednesday** of the month at **11:00 a.m.** Since we were unable to hold our December service due to COVID, we will be meeting on **January 4th**. You are welcome to join the worship as long as you wear a mask.



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 Rev. Mike or the church office.

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.

To view recordings of previous worship services, please subscribe to our [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@twcnny.rr.com

Hello, my name is...

Remember - **Name Tag Sunday** is **January 15th**.

Come early to church and make your own name tag.
Get to know your neighbor.

What A Wonderful Day for Our Church!!!

For the 90 some people in the sanctuary, and the 50 people who joined in via the live-stream, and everyone who stayed for the potluck to follow, Sunday December 11th was a wonderful day for our church; especially after the restrictions and limitation COVID has placed on us the past few years.

We began the service with the men of the church renewing their tradition of singing *White Christmas* for the congregation.

Then, our Church School Director Andrea Montgomery and 23 kids delighted us with a fabulous Pageant (many thanks to her, the kids, and all the parents and adults who made it possible).

After worship the Fellowship Hall was packed with people as we all enjoyed a meal fit for Kings and Queens, and the fellowship of each other's good company (thanks to all who helped set up, brought food, and did clean up).

Following the potluck, the Deacons delivered poinsettias and a dozen assorted Christmas cookies to 23 folks who don't get out much, with those in attendance also taking home a sampling of cookies to enjoy.





“You shall celebrate a feast to the LORD your God because the LORD your God will bless you so that your joy will be complete.” - Deut. 16:15



January 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Deacon & Food Offering Rev. Mike Off New Year's Day 10:00 AM No Church School 11:15 AM Church Fellowship Zoom Meeting	2	3	4 11:00 AM PK Service	5 7:00 PM Choir Practice	6	7
8 Baptism of the Lord Bring A Friend To Church De-Greening of Church 10:00 AM Church School 11:15 AM Church Fellowship Zoom Meeting	9	10	11 7:00 PM Women's Circle	12 Annual Reports Due 7:00 PM Choir Practice	13	14
15 Name Tag Sunday Newsletter Deadline Noisy Can Offering 10:00 AM Church School 11:15 AM Church Fellowship Zoom Meeting	16 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	17	18	19 7:00 PM Choir Practice	20	21
22 Loma's Lounge Dedication Potluck for Lorna Lunar New Year 10:00 AM Church School 11:15 AM Church Fellowship Zoom Meeting	23	24 7:00 PM Evening Book Group	25	26 5:45 PM Deacons Mtg 7:00 PM Choir Practice	27	28
29 10:00 AM Church School 11:15 AM Church Fellowship Zoom Meeting	30 7:00 PM Session	31	1 11:00 AM PK Service	2 Groundhog Day 7:00 PM Choir Practice	3	4

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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.



**Celebrating Lorna
Dedication of Lorna's Lounge
Christmas Giving Recap
2023 Per Capita
Joining The Church
Pageant & Potluck Photos
Annual Meeting - February 5th**



**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.**