



# The View From The Park

A Newsletter of Faith & Community

November 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 November

• **Worship Begins At 10:00 a.m.** •

• **November 5th** •

Pledge Sunday  
Communion  
Deacon & Food Shelf Offering  
Daylight Saving Time Ends  
(Turn clocks back Saturday night!)



• **November 12th** •

New Member Sunday  
WalthaGaye Leavitt to Preach  
Rev. Mike to Lead Worship



• **November 19th** •

Rev. Mike on Vacation  
Chris Remick To Preach  
Name Tag Sunday  
Noisy Can Offering



• **November 26th** •

No Church School  
Christ The King Sunday  
Greening of the Church



## Time to Fall Back!

Turn your clock back an hour  
when you go to bed  
on **Saturday, November 4th.**

**Rev. Michael P. Catanzaro**..... Pastor  
**Pastor Donna Doig, CLP**..... Associate Pastor  
**Andrea Montgomery**.....Church School Director  
**Kathleen Crecco**.....Director of Music & Pianist  
**Bob Duda**.....Assistant Director  
**Emily & Kate Ewy**.....Nursery Care Providers  
**Lynne HunterBeach**.....Office Coordinator  
**Patience Boswell**..... Sexton  
**Cameron Boswell**.....Stream Master  
**Linda Potter**.....Newsletter Editor  
**Office Hours: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Tues. & Thursday**

## Pledge Sunday - Nov. 5th

In this season of Thanksgiving, it is time for our **annual Stewardship Drive** with **November 5th** as **Pledge Sunday**.

In the mail, you should have received an **appeal letter, Stewardship brochure** and your **pledge card**. A pledge card is also on **page 12** and additional cards will be at the church on November 5th. The Stewardship Committee and Session ask that you **prayerfully consider how our church supports you** and your family, our community and world, and how you, in turn, **can support the work and mission of our church**.



Pledge Sunday

You are invited and encouraged to contact any member of the Session or Rev. Mike with any questions. Please return the pledge cards as quickly as possible so we may begin to plan **our budget and programs for 2024**.

**Thanks** to everyone (near and far) for their **continued support** of the First Presbyterian Church on the Park!

## Greening Of The Church

The Greening of the Church will take place after worship on **Sunday, November 26th**. *Many* hands are needed for this decorating of the sanctuary, the foyer and Fellowship Hall. **Hope to see you!**



Help Us "Spruce" Up the Church!

## Family News

Thanks to **Michelle Guinell-Gayle** for the terrific new Activity Packs located outside the sanctuary which are provided to kids to keep them engaged during the worship service.

Prayers for **Jane Eller**, infant daughter of James and **Anna**, who received four stitches after pulling down a chair on top of her little head (ouch!); **Judy Gibson** undergoing chemotherapy and radiation as follow-up to successful surgery (cards may be sent to her at 35 Riverside Dr., Apt. 3G, Canton, NY 13617); and **Bob Fraser** who has (finally) returned home after many months of rehabilitation; and for **Betty Fraser** on the death of her brother, Bob Klem.

Prayers for **Dick Partch** on the death of his beloved wife, Joanne. Cards may be sent to P.O. Box 308, Hannawa Falls, NY 13647; and for **Nick Scelzi**, a resident of the Canton Nursing home. Nick is having a difficult time and any support or visits would be greatly appreciated. Cards may be sent care of Nick to Maple Wood Nursing Home, Maple 109, 205 State Street Road, Canton NY 13617.

Prayers for **Marilyn Coir** now living at 125 Dover Road, Mills, MA 02054 (a permanent change for her). Marilyn would be *delighted* to receive cards and notes!

Prayers for **Bill Webb** struggling with loss of sight. Visits and cards greatly appreciated (27 Pine Street, Canton NY 13617). **Kudos to Bill's children** for getting his set up with wifi and a computer so he can particulate in the live-stream of the Sunday worship service. What a joy to have Bill back with us in worship.

Prayers for **Rich Denison**, now home and recovering from significant surgery; and his wife **Jeannie** in support of him. Rich and Jeannie are regular participants in virtual worship most Sundays.

## More Family News

Prayers for **Vern Aldous** who continues to recover from surgery, cards appreciated (6171 US Hwy 11, Canton NY 13617); **Rita Ostrander** facing health challenges; **Christa Lyon** facing health challenges; **Josh Holbrook** facing health challenges; Janet Favro currently residing at Keene Valley Neighborhood House (Attn Janet Favro, P.O. Box 46, Keene Valley, NY 12943); **Colleen Grant** for healing and wholeness, and husband **Dale** in support of her, (55 Bird Street, Canton, NY 13617); Jody Upton, sister of **Susan Akins**, being treated for a reoccurrence of cancer; and, **Roger McBath**, a resident at the Canton Nursing Home.

Long distance prayers for Scott McLain recovering from a broken hip (father of **Vicki McLain**, who lives in NH), Carole Schumann recovering from knee replacement (mother of **Heidi Ames**, who lives in MN), Carole Eller also recovering from a broken hip (mother of **James Eller**, who lives in Rochester) and the brother of **Jane Cable**, John Mark, for a reoccurrence of pancreatic cancer (awaiting results); and his wife, Darlene, who was recently diagnosed with uterine cancer (awaiting referral to Mayo Clinic). Hard.

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## Election Day

Election Day is **Tuesday, November 7th**. Be part of our democratic system and be sure to vote - whether by early voting, absentee or in-person.



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## Farm Family Offering

Reminder that the **Farm Family Offering** will be held on **December 4th**. More info will be in the December newsletter about this important local outreach.



## Supporting Our Trooper!

Over the next TWO weeks, our congregation will be gathering items for a Care Package for PFC Hunter Montgomery, son of **Joe & Andrea Montgomery** and big brother to **Colin**, who is serving our nation in the U.S. Army and has been deployed to Iraq until late next spring as part of the 2nd Battalion, 15th Field Artillery Regiment. Hunter's birthday is November 26th, and we'd sure like to get this care package to him in time for Thanksgiving and his birthday! **Please drop off items to the church either this Sunday (Nov. 5th) or next**

**Sunday (Nov. 12th);** or, you may order online and have items shipped to the church (17 Park Street, Canton NY 13617 % Hunter



Montgomery). **Let's get a big old box of goodies to him (and his buddies) to show our support!**

**Food/Drink.** Beef Jerky, other snack items, Gatorade packets.

**Toiletries.** Toothbrush, toothpaste, dental floss, cotton swabs, shaving lotion, disposable razors, shampoo, individually packaged tissues.

**Personal care.** Individually packaged baby wipes, eye drops, lip balm, lotion, aspirin or another pain reliever.



**Foot care.** Moleskin, medicated foot powder and athletes foot ointment.

**Games.** Foam footballs and basketballs, Frisbees, Hacky Sacks, playing cards, yo-yos. crossword puzzles, word searches, jigsaw puzzles.

## Welcome Lachlan!

On Sunday, October 8th we were delighted to baptize **Lachlan Roan Boutin**, son of **Sean Boutin** and **Kristin McKie**, and welcome him into the body of Christ and our church family here On The Park!



## Making Noise For The CCP Food Pantry

This past fall, children and parents from our church have gone food shopping with proceeds from our church's monthly **"Noisy Can Offering"** to help supply the food pantry at the Church & Community Program. In October, the kids purchased

**34** food items including **apples, potatoes**



and **clementines** at a cost of \$69.27. Pictured is C&CP Director, Connie Jenkins, and Elder for Mission, **Michelle Theisen**.

Thank you to the **generosity** of those people at our church who donate their coins and other monetary support faithfully to the Youth Noisy Can Offering to help community needs. If you are interested in helping the kids with their shopping, please contact Michelle at (315) 742-2172. **Food donations** from all are also welcomed. If any one would like a tour of the C&CP pantry, contact Michelle.

## 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](mailto:RevMike@ChurchOnThePark.org)

## Church Attendance

	In-Person	Stream	CS
October 1	58	33	11
October 8	60	36	10
October 15	50	35	No CS
October 22	49	43	6
October 29	54	38	10

Average In-Person Attendance: 54

Average Live-Stream Attendance: 37

Average CS Attendance: 9

## Treasurer's Report

	Operating	Mission
October 1	\$2,127.00	\$ 71.00
October 10	\$2,604.00	\$ 67.00
October 20	\$4,445.00	\$530.00
October 22	<u>\$2,404.57</u>	<u>\$210.00</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$11,580.57</b>	<b>\$878.00</b>

## Brick Chapel Potluck

The community that is the **Brick Chapel Church** invites folks to attend a **"2nd Saturday" Potluck** to be held Saturday, **November 11th**, at the Saphead Complex (5355 CR 27, Canton). There will be a **potluck/covered dish supper** at **5 p.m.**, followed by a **music and storytelling** program at **6 p.m.** with folk singer and storyteller, **Mark Shepard**.



Anyone who is interested in exploring the possibilities of a "Spiritual" (though not necessarily "religious") **Community Center** at Brick Chapel are welcome to attend (this includes farmers, homesteaders, gardeners, sap heads, dreamers, youngsters, oldsters and anyone in between).

Get out of the house before winter sets in! Share great homegrown and home-made food! Bring a dish or dessert to share. Make new friends and catch up with old ones. **BUILD** community. **Uplift spirits** through conversation, swapping recipes, enjoying music and stories.

## Officers & Committees

### Elders On Session

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

Joe Montgomery Patrick LaPierre Rob Ewy  
 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  
 Susan Akins Jane Cable Stacie Olney-LaPierre  
 Jean McGuire Ellen Grayson  
 Secretary Moderator  
 Ray Erickson, Treasurer *Ex Officio*

### Committees

### Chairs

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

Facilities Barry Walch, Joe Montgomery & 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 Jim Franklin, Mark Brackett, Beth Hayes - Chair  
 Responsible for filling Session, Deacons & Offices.

Church School Michelle Quinell-Gayle  
 Responsible for growth, nurturing & learning.

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

Communion Pat Mace & Vicki McLain

Stewardship Heidi Ames & Patrick LaPierre  
 Responsible for securing resources and energy to fulfill the mission & ministry of our church.

Mission Michelle Theisen  
 Helping our church, community and world.

Treasurer Mary McGreevy

Financial Secretary Barry Walch

Asst. Financial Secretary Anna Eller

C&C Program JJ Jockel, Sean Boutin & Michelle Theisen

Personnel Pat Mace, Michelle Quinell-Gayle Patrick LaPierre

# The Pastor's Report

Greetings Sisters and Brothers in the faith; those near or far, but always close at heart!

As you know, this is the time of year when we undertake our annual Stewardship Drive. As such, it is a time of taking stock, compiling figures and crunching numbers all with the hope that we can continue building on the financial strength of our church as we move into the future.

As you might guess, and as I have shared in the past, I'm not really a "math person." But I do enjoy numbers as they relate to measurements; particularly as they involve building and wood-working. There is something very honest and straightforward about numbers, particularly as a means of measurement.

This past week I officiated at the funeral of an "old feller" from the Canton community. The title of my homily was "The Measure of a Person's Life." The point I made to those gathered is that the measure of our lives is not what *we* do but, rather, what God does *for* us.

That said, this got me to thinking about the measure of a church. Certainly, we can understand the scope and direction of our church in looking at the dollars and cents, as this is an inescapable reality of our life together as a church family.

"Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfill all the good pleasure of God's goodness, and the work of faith with power:" - 2 Thessalonians 1:11

Those numbers, the financial numbers, only tell part of the tale. To give a fuller sense of who we are and what we do, I would like to throw a few more numbers at you:

6. The number of Elders on the Session with school-aged kids.

17 and 5. That is, 17 people joined the church this year and we baptized 5 infants to welcome them into the body of Christ and this faith community.

64 and 33. The first is the average number of folks attending worship each Sunday in-person (64) and the second the average number of people worshipping via the live-stream (33). I am enough of a math person to know that adding these two numbers together means that on any given Sunday we have about 100 people worshipping here at our church.

One final number I would offer is "everyone." I would invite you to take a look at the photo pages from our recent Fall Bazaar included in this month's newsletter. When I first received these photos something leapt right out at me: *everyone* is smiling. To me, this is an extremely important measure of a church: the joy we feel, and the joy we share.

Here at our Church, *everyone* counts and we count on *all* of us.

Go figure, Rev. Mike

## Session Report

The Session met on September 25th. Greeting Elders for October were assigned. **Thank you notes** from Banford Elementary, the Church & Community Program and Dailey Ridge Church were shared.

**Rev. Mike** reported he had a good vacation in September and during that time he visited **Margaret Alexander** and **Galen Pletcher**. WalthaGaye Leavitt will preach on November 12th. The variance for the digital sign was approved.

The Selleck land will be listed by County Seat Realty. Funds have been received for the **AED**, and donations have been made from the Discretionary Fund.

Security concerns about people coming into the church at night were discussed. Rev. Mike, Rob Ewy and Michelle Quinelle-Gayle and Michelle Theisen will meet with GardenShare to review use of the park and church during the farmers' market season.

Facilities Committee reported that work will be done next to the wall of the church office to prevent water from seeping in. **Patrick LaPierre** and **Heidi Ames** will head up the Stewardship Drive. Next meeting is **October 30th**.

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## Evening Book Group

The Evening Book Group will meet on **Tuesday, November 28th** at 7 p.m. in Lorna's Lounge to discuss **The Girl In The Striped Dress** by Ellie Midwood with host **Pat Mace**. All are welcome.

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## Women's Circle

Women's Circle will meet on **Wednesday, November 8th** at 7 p.m. in Lorna's Lounge with the topic of "**Compliments**". All women of the church are welcome. If you are able to attend, contact **Linda Potter** at [nautilus@twcnny.rr.com](mailto:nautilus@twcnny.rr.com).

## Virtual Worship & Fellowship

For live-streaming, fellowship, bulletins, sermons newsletter and other resources, **begin by bookmarking the church website:** [www.ChurchOnThePark.org](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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").

# NOVEMBER Birthdays

- 1 Dave MacMaster
- 2 Tracy Loeffler
- 4 Amanda Eschman,  
Duncan Melville,
- 5 Judy Longshore
- 6 Mary Grace Gordon
- 8 Rev. Michael Catanzaro,  
Elizabeth Chadwick,  
Laura O'Shaughnessy
- 11 Roger McBath, Anne Patterson
- 12 Amelia Rodee, Sarah Rodee
- 18 Wanda Renick
- 21 Janice Poole
- 22 James Eller
- 24 Martha Pierce, Betsy Robinson
- 25 David Patterson, Hayden Irish
- 26 Abhisheka David,  
Hunter Montgomery
- 28 Bob Duda
- 29 Stuart Jones

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

## Giving Tree Time!

It's time again to take a **Giving Tree tag** and help the Church & Community Program make the holidays brighter for a child in need in our community! Just like last year, we're asking for **donations** to purchase vouchers for **clothing, toys/gifts**, and **food** for families who need your help, especially at this time of year. With your help, parents are now able to shop for their own children and have done a terrific job of it since 2020.

In addition to the three vouchers, each child will also receive a new pair of **PJs** and a hand-knit **hat** made by local knitters. To make this happen, Giving Tree needs your donation by cash, check or online at [ccpcanton.org](http://ccpcanton.org). Giving Tree tags are in our church foyer. Thanks in advance for your generosity. If you have any questions, contact our CCP representative, **Sean Boutin, Michelle Theisen** and **J.J. Jockel**.

## November Lectionary Readings

### All Saints' Day - November 1

Revelation 7:9-17  
Psalm 34:1-10, 22  
1 John 3:1-3  
Matthew 5:1-12

### Sunday, November 5

Joshua 3:7-17  
Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37  
1 Thessalonians 2:9-13  
Matthew 23:1-12



### Sunday, November 12

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25  
Psalm 78:1-7  
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18  
Matthew 25:1-13

### Sunday, November 19

Judges 4:1-7  
Psalm 123  
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11  
Matthew 25:14-30

### Christ the King - November 26

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24  
Psalm 100 or Psalm 95:1-7a  
Ephesians 1:15-23  
Matthew 25:31-46

## Saving Grace

Thanks be to God  
for the food before us;  
for the friends beside us;  
for the life within us;  
for the creation around us;  
for His protection over us;  
for His presence near us;  
and for His word within us.

## 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

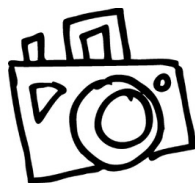
**Prayer Chain** to offer prayers for folks who are ill, troubled or in need.

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

The next **Partridge Knoll service** is on **November 1st** and will continue through the winter (except January) on the **1st Wednesday** of the month at **11:00 a.m.**



## 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](mailto:office@ChurchOnThePark.org)

Reverend Mike's email address: [RevMike@ChurchOnThePark.org](mailto:RevMike@ChurchOnThePark.org)

## Sermons & Services

**Written Sermons** in PDF format are now available for viewing or downloading on Monday at [www.ChurchOnThePark.org](http://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](mailto: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@twcny.rr.com](mailto:nautilus@twcny.rr.com)

## Hello, my name is...

Remember - **Name Tag Sunday** is **November 19th**.

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



## Bazaar Report

A special thank you to EVERYONE who made our recent Bazaar a huge success. All those that donated items for the Ivory Pachyderm table, ingredients for the luncheon, time, made baked goods and candy, attended the bazaar or just stopped in to give us moral support.

The push began in earnest on Tuesday when the **"Muscle Men"** (Sean and Arlo) graciously set all of the tables for us. Next the carrying, unpacking and organizing. Lucky Linda did a knock-out job of turning boxes of donated jewelry into an amazing booth of **BLING**. Pat and her crew of Ellen, Mary, Barb K. and Barb B. worked tirelessly to use the space allotted to skillfully display their wares. **BAKERS BEWARE.....**there was an amazing assortment of baked goods and candy that no one could walk past, and on bazaar day was managed by Marion and Kelcey.

Behind the scenes Arvilla and Vern are the **"Official Turkey Roasters/De-boners"** and a great job they did...no bones were left unturned...or found in the meat! Friday afternoon found the kitchen in full swing...Mary, Nancey, Christa, Christy, Mark and Jean were **Lean, Mean, Chopping Machines** as they chopped up the ingredients for the Soups and peeled and chopped all the eggs for the egg salad by hand because *someone* forgot to bring the egg chopper...**oops**. Michelle and Olga are **THE NEW OFFICIAL DECORATING COMMITTEE**, as they elegantly dressed the tables for fall. Saturday morning found Christy, Rosalie and Susan skillfully making/cutting trays and trays of sandwiches.

Liam arrived in time to monitor /serve the soup with Whitney and Jim (**who actually showed up this time, albeit late**). Martha gracefully (haha) oversaw the wait staff of Aubrey, Luke, Hunter, Rosalee and Sophia. Kate and Emily arrived....

## Bazaar Report - cont.

...to **'become Martha'** and take over the wait staff supervising. Stacie and Gwen **HAPPILY** assisted customers with purchases at the jewelry table. I would be remiss if I didn't mention Marilyn Rodee aka **the Lunch Lady**, taking orders and delivering meals to those in the congregation who are home-bound unable to attend.

All in all...I believe a good time was had by all; church and community members alike. I will apologize now for forgetting to name someone ....and if it was you, please point it out to me, **I would do the same if it was me**. Revenue from the day was a *whopping* **\$2,397.50**. Give yourselves a hand! This couldn't have happened without **every one of you**.

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## CCP Report

In September, the Church and Community Program served **229** households with **120** children, **205** adults and **156** seniors. Of those, 7 households were new to the pantry and 2 were emergency cases. To learn more about the Program, or to get involved, please speak with our board representatives, **J.J., Sean** or **Michelle**.

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## Lunch & Learn

Hospice of St. Lawrence Valley is holding a Lunch & Learn workshop about the art of writing a **great obituary** on Wednesday, **November 15th** from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the the Hospice building (6805 US Hwy 11, Potsdam **Linda Potter** is one of the presenters. Lunch is provided. RSVPs appreciated at 315-265-3105.

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## Deacon's Offering

The Deacon's Offering is 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!**

## Welcome WalthaGaye!

At Rev. Mike's invitation, **Waltha-Gaye Leavitt** will deliver the sermon on Sunday, **November 12th** (Rev. Mike will lead worship). WalthaGaye is a child of our church, and the daughter of **Carolyn Leavitt** (who died this past summer) and we joyously welcome her home to the Church on the Park, and to hear her sermon entitled, "How Did I Get Here?" Below is a short bio:

*I was born to Carolyn Harriet Cutter Leavitt from Washington Mills, NY and Lester Clark Leavitt of North Russell, NY. Mother was an English teacher and taught High School English at Brushton High School. Father was also a teacher and taught at St. Lawrence Ag School which became ATC and then SUNY. His major was soil science but his minor was English. My mother taught school long enough to know that she wanted unusual names for her children. My name is a derivative of Walter- my grandfather. My mother's sister put the Gaye on it to make it "flow".*

*I went to school at Canton and graduated in 1974 in a class of 130, by the skin of my teeth. I was active in 4-H and in the St. Lawrence 4-H County Club. Music was important to me - I took piano lessons for many years and played bassoon in the band. I was a member of this church- active in the choir, Youth Fellowship and the Ad Board.*

*After high school graduation, I went to Nursing School at the St. Lawrence Psychiatric Center in Ogdensburg. It was a 3 year program and we were encouraged to live in the dorms. I was home most weekends to go to church and to care for my horse.*

*After graduating college, I moved to Michigan to start my career of 31 years. There wasn't a Presbyterian Church in*

## WalthaGaye - cont.

*Carson City so I joined the United Methodist Church. I taught Sunday School for 31 years. When I took a job on days at the hospital, I became more active at church serving on committees. I earned my BSN from Ferris State University in 1991. I found that I loved to learn and so took classes for Lay Speaking. I also became active in the United Methodist Women which is now called United Women in Faith.*

*I retired from Nursing in 2017 but find many activities to keep me busy. Recently, I help the Lutheran Church on their quilting days. We make utility quilts that are sent around the world through Lutheran World Relief. I also work weekly at IM 3rd mead which makes a nutritious bag lunch for food insecure children.*

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## Food Pantry Donations

Our Church Food Pantry is a vital source of nourishment and comfort to people in times of need. Thank you to all who bring generous donations of **non-perishable food items** to stock our **church food pantry**. Some suggestions are canned goods with "pop-top easy-open" lids of canned fruit, vegetables, soup, canned meats/tuna, bottled juice, peanut butter, jam, crackers, cereal, pasta/rice, spaghetti sauce. Our non-perishable food inventory is monitored and any food items expiring within 3 months of expiration will be taken to the Church & Community Food Pantry for distribution.

People in great need can be referred to the **Church & Community Program**, 30 Court Street, Canton, M - F, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The CCP Food Pantry is officially open on Tuesdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and on Wednesdays from noon to 3:30 p.m. They make food deliveries to community clients signed up for the food pantry assistance Mon-Wed. each week.

## Congratulations Tiffany!

**Tiffany Soricelli**, a SUNY Potsdam alumni and member of our church, was recently named to the college's Board of Trustees. Tiffany is an award-winning financial advisor and the owner of Virtuoso Asset Management LLC, the first Registered Investment Advisory firm in the country dedicated to serving artists and supporters of the arts through financial planning and asset management services.

She is also the founder and CEO of Virtuoso Advising for Artists, a company dedicated to coaching and educating artists about the business and financial aspects of building a thriving career in the arts. As a sought-after national speaker, Tiffany currently serves as the business and financial coach to emerging artists at The Metropolitan Opera, Washington National Opera, Houston Grand Opera, Minnesota Opera and San Francisco Opera.

Tiffany sang in our choir while in college, served as our Choir Director during her return to graduate school, she and husband **Rob** were married in our church, and their kids **Rory** and **Juniper** were baptized into our congregation. Tiffany also manages our church's investments. **Tiffany, Rob and the kids will be in worship with us this coming Sunday, November 5th.**



## Get A Chance To Win

Northern TRIBS swimming is holding a raffle, \$5/ticket, with a drawing on December 3rd with a chance to win cash prizes ranging from \$100 to \$1,500. Proceeds will provide scholarships for swim lessons for area children. To purchase a raffle ticket, contact **Anna Eller** at [annabergmanbrown@gmail.com](mailto:annabergmanbrown@gmail.com).

## Community Dinner

**Grace House** is sponsoring a **free community meal** on **Thanksgiving Day** in the Fellowship Hall of Grace Episcopal Church to say thanks to the community for their support over the past five years.

On Thursday, **November 23rd** from 2 to 5 p.m., they will be serving turkey, ham, stuffing, sweet and white potatoes, rolls, bean casserole, vegetables, pumpkin and apple pies with cider, water, coffee and tea. The meal is open to all in the community with a donation jar for those able to contribute.

If you would like to help with the **preparation** or **servicing**, contact Chistine Downton, Resident Director at Grace House, at 315-777-0483.

## Holiday of Lights

On **Friday, November 24th**, families can enjoy a **tree lighting, caroling, sleigh rides** and a **visit with Santa**. Our church's Fellowship Hall will once again be the location of the **hot chocolate** and **cookies** served for this Holiday of Lights celebration. **Volunteers are needed** from **5:30 – 7:30 p.m.** to greet families and pass out cookies and hot chocolate. Call or text **Beth Hayes** at (315) 244-7902 if you can help.

## Church Work Day

A Church Work Day will be held on Saturday, **November 4th** from **9 a.m.** to **noon**. Many hands will make light work! Bring your **vacuum** and **cleaning supplies**, if you are able. We will be vacuuming and dusting the sanctuary, organizing the nursery and cleaning the kitchen and Fellowship Hall. Even if you can stop by for just a bit, you can join in as together we make a big difference. **Hope to see you!**



# Time For Stewardship

*Below are the words that Patrick LaPierre recently shared during worship in a "Second for Stewardship". Please consider what the church means to you and the ways you can support it.*

If it's fall and a backbencher, like myself, comes up to speak, it's got to be pledge season. Don't worry - mine is the soft sell before Heidi drops the hammer next Sunday ;-).

We know what a great thing we have here. A church that is at once serious and fun; reverential and irreverent; blooming with faith and activity and inviting to all. We've made some exciting improvements like Lorna's Lounge and have others in waiting like a youth room in the basement and a new outdoor sign; we also have the catalogue of grey but necessary upkeep like roof repairs and the like.

To these ends, I ask you to consider giving a pledge this year to our church. Such gifts help fund our fixed costs, which index with inflation, those predictable and unexpected projects that coevolve with our aging, but well-loved building, and our longer-term projects that reflect our growing membership.



Isn't it gratifying to think how your pledge will go to support a church that is as welcoming and as caring as it is, and to know that an old-school denomination in the right company can thrive. Let's continue to fund this journey together; to fix what needs fixing, to amplify our generosity; and to pursue our hopes for the Church on the Park!

**Patrick LaPierre**, Elder and Stewardship Co-Chair

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## My Estimate of Giving

**Yes!** I would like to help support the work of our Church. During the coming year, I plan to give \$\_\_\_\_\_ per week, to be divided as follows:  
\$\_\_\_\_\_ for our church and \$\_\_\_\_\_ for General Mission.

**Yes, I would like offering envelopes.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please bring to the church on November 6th or mail to 17 Park Street, Canton NY 13617.

**Your support of our church is greatly appreciated! Thank you!**

### A reminder of My Church Pledge:

During the coming year, I plan to give to our church \$\_\_\_\_\_ per week.

# Pledge Sunday

## Pledges 2019-2023

The chart to the right is part of the stewardship brochure which was in the mailing which you received. It shows the number of **pledging units** along with **average** pledge amount. Only you (and your family) know what amount is best for you. Together, we are the stewards of this church, giving our **time, talent** and **treasure** to make the Church On The Park a vital, welcoming part of our community. Consider what it means to you and bring or mail your pledge to the church on **Pledge Sunday, November 5th.**

Amount Pledged	# Of Pledging Units				
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
\$0 - \$399	4	3	2	2	4
\$400 - \$999	13	9	10	6	6
\$1,000-\$1,599	15	12	16	12	10
\$1,600-\$2,499	11	11	11	9	14
\$2,500-\$3,999	9	12	12	11	11
\$4,000 and up	6	4	4	8	8
<b>Total:</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>53</b>
Average Pledge	\$1,892	\$1,934	\$2,026	\$2,386	\$2,117
Weekly	\$36.38	\$37.20	\$38.97	\$45.88	\$40.72
Membership	106	105	105	95	110
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$109,871</b>		<b>\$109,429</b>	<b>\$112,230</b>	
		<b>\$98,670</b>		<b>\$105,971</b>	

**Thank You  
For Your Support!**

## Halloween On The Park

**Kids and old(er) folks alike got into the (Holy) Spirit of Halloween again this year by dressing up for worship.**



## Shhh! It's A Secret!

You are invited to be part of a card shower for **Wanda Renick** on the occasion of her **95th** birthday on **November 18th**. Shower her with cards and greetings by mailing them to her at: Wanda Renick, 30 Sullivan Drive, Apt. 114 A, Canton NY 13617. Wanda is a former high school English teacher who has touched many lives in Canton through the classroom and her involvement in local theater. Feel free to share this with others who will want to be part of this shower of goodness. We are sending Wanda her own newsletter this month, with this article taken out, so as to keep the endeavor a surprise.

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## Kids In The Choir

**Kathleen Crecco**, our director of music and pianist, is extending an invitation to the **youth** of our church to **join the choir**. Not only is it a lot of fun, it is a great way to get to know the other people in our church while lending your voice in song during worship. Choir practice is Thursdays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. and choir arrives early on Sundays at 9 a.m. for rehearsal.

If your child is interested (even for a Sunday here and there), we can find a way to make rehearsals work for their schedule. Talk to Kathleen or contact Rev. Mike.

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## OFA Holiday Gift Drive

The **Office for the Aging** is sponsoring the **10th Annual Holiday Gift Drive** for older adults in SLC. They are collecting financial contributions to purchase gift cards and/or gift baskets for older adults in their home delivered meal program. Mail your contribution by **December 8th** to Office for the Aging, 80 State Highway 310, Suite 7, Canton NY 13617. **Thank you!**

## Parents! Grandparents!

Shout out and share the word about your kids and grandkids with your church family! Send in their accomplishments and achievements in the classroom, on the field and in the community to the church office (315) 386-2570 or [office@ChurchOnTheP-ark.org](mailto:office@ChurchOnTheP-ark.org)

Also, let Rev. Mike know when the kids have a game, recital, performance or award ceremony. Text him at (716) 857-0111 or email him at [RevMike@churchonthep-ark.org](mailto:RevMike@churchonthep-ark.org).



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## Critical Need For Volunteers

The St. Lawrence County Office for the Aging provides hot, nutritious meals for **homebound older** adults, many with multiple health conditions, Monday through Friday. Some who are food insecure also receive a weekend meal.

There is a critical need for home delivered meal **drivers** to all of their areas. For many clients, the meal delivery driver is the only social contact they will have all day. This program is a vital lifeline to help them age in place in the comfort of their own homes. Deliveries are made between 10 a.m. and noon.

Home delivered meal drivers receive **mileage reimbursement** and can pick their own schedule. Even a couple of hours a month can make a *huge* difference. If you are looking for a way to make a meaningful impact in your community and help improve the quality of life for vulnerable senior citizens, please contact **Andrea Montgomery** (OFA Director and our CS Director) or the Nutrition Manager, **Danielle Durant** at (315) 386-4730.



Faye, Marion and Kelcy



Liam & Whitney



Jim the  
"Sandwich Guy"

Rejoicing in our labors!  
Thanks to all  
who made the Bazaar  
such a success.  
What a gift! What a joy!



Luke, Sophia, Martha & Harper



Martha gives the  
Sandwich Guy a "Talkin To"



Beth (Fearless Leader)

...and the *real* Marilyn Rodee



Miss Aubrey



Mrs. Potter



Kate, Sophia  
& Emily



Barb



Christy



Susan and Beth



Jean & Martha



Nancey & Mary



Emily & Carolyn



Patrick, Gwen & Stacie



Stacie



Rosalee & Emily



Liam





Heidi, Beth, Faye & Martha

Fabulous Food.  
Fantastic Friends,  
And A Whole Lot of Fun!  
A Great Day For Our Church.  
It Is Good To Be Us!



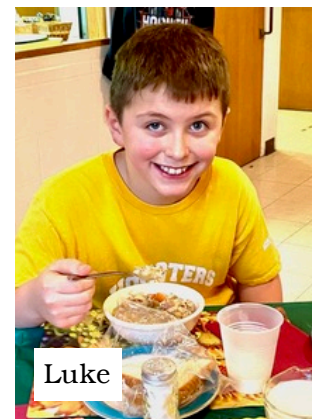
Ray



Mary, Barb, Rich & Ellen



Barb & Christa



Luke



Walter, Alina, Anna & Jane



Lora & Dave

# November 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 Come In Costume Stewardship Sermon 11:15 AM Church Fellowship Zoom Meeting	30 7:00 PM Session	31 Halloween	1 11:00 AM PK Service	2 6:30 PM Choir Practice	3	4 9:00 AM Church Work Day
5 Communion Deacon & Food Offering Pledge Sunday 11:15 AM Church Fellowship Zoom Meeting	6	7 Election Day	8 7:00 PM Women's Circle	9 6:30 PM Choir Practice	10	11 Veterans' Day
12 New Member Sunday Rev. Mike To Lead Worship WalthaGaye Leavitt To Preach 11:15 AM Church Fellowship Zoom Meeting	13	14	15 Newsletter Deadline	16 6:30 PM Choir Practice	17	18
19 Chris Remick To Preach Name Tag Sunday Noisy Can Offering Rev. Mike On Vacation 11:15 AM Church Fellowship Zoom Meeting	20	21	22	23 9:00 AM Thanksgiving	24 6:00 PM Holiday of Lights	25
26 Christ The King Sunday No Church School 11:00 AM Greening Of The Church 11:15 AM Church Fellowship Zoom Meeting	27 7:00 PM Session	28 7:00 PM Evening Book Group	29	30 5:45 PM Deacons Meeting 6:30 PM Choir Practice	1	2

The 1st Presbyterian Church, on the Park  
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.

## **Church Work Day - November 4th**



**Bazaar Report & Photos**  
**Greening Of The Church**  
**Brick Chapel Potluck**  
**Care Package for Hunter**  
**New Member Sunday**



Pledge Sunday

## **Pledge Sunday - November 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.**