

# Dryden Presbyterian Church Newsletter

## November 2023

Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and thus put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing.

Malachi 3:10 NRSV



### Pad the Plate Project

Many of us pass on the offering plate without putting anything in it. This is usually because we gave online, or last week, or simply forgot our gift.

What if instead, every time the plate is passed we each put in something. A dollar. Some change. A five! Something above our "regular" giving.

If 20 people put an extra \$1 in the plate every Sunday, it would add up to \$1,040!

Think about it. And maybe next Sunday don't just pass the plate.

### Why We Pledge to Give

There's a strong autumn tradition in churches that goes way back. No, I'm not talking about Thanksgiving, potlucks, or food collections. I'm talking about stewardship drives.

I've been in churches that do it with pomp and circumstance, and in others that bring in the media blitz. Presbyterians are more reserved; we basically send out a letter that says, in a nutshell, "Please pledge."

As you are probably aware, the pledge process allows church leaders to budget expenses for the upcoming year of ministry. In some years, there is an abundance that goes into various forms of savings accounts. In some years, expenses outweigh projected income, and Session elects to step out in faith by "opening the storehouse" and using some of the reserve.

Regardless of whether it is a time of drought or a time of abundance, we are all called to trust in the Lord with our wallets. But even as we pledge, we need to prayerfully consider *why* we give to the church.

Here's just a few reasons:

**In God we trust.** If we give a tithe (10%) of our income before paying the bills, we are trusting God to give us enough to cover all our expenses. You would be amazed at how this works! (Malachi 3:10)

**It is a beautiful day to be in the house of the Lord.** How sweet it is to worship God together, both in the sanctuary and online. Costs for such efforts include paying worship leaders, purchasing music, obtaining various copyright licenses, technology upkeep, and more.

**By the Lord's hand we all are fed, but the church is the spoon.** Our mission statement is: "We proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ, feed the hungry, welcome the stranger, and love our neighbors as ourselves." While this involves many volunteer hours and behind the scenes efforts, our mission also needs funding to pay staff, maintain buildings, develop programs, and purchase curriculum.

**Church is family.** We are on a journey together, loving one another and bearing one another's burdens. At various times, in various ways, people who are going through dark valleys need the hand of fellowship, the prayer of power, the presence of others, and, now and then, a casserole. Consider what this church means to you personally. Are you willing to support her as she has supported you?

Our stewardship drive this month includes the standard: a letter and pledge card sent to all members as well as a sermon on the first Sunday and a pledge dedication two weeks later. This year, we will also include three "**What DPC Has Meant to Me**" Moments for Ministry. If you would like to share your testimony with the congregation, please let me know asap.

May the Lord multiply the blessings of our church.

- Pastor Nancy





# Pray for Peace

## PCUSA Stated Clerk Calls for End of Violence in Middle East

October 13, 2023

Horrific actions committed by Hamas and the violent response by Israel have exacerbated deep wounds, inflicting physical and emotional pain and suffering. We acknowledge that the people of Palestine and Hamas are not one in the same, and we stand in solidarity with the people of Palestine and Israel who seek peace. Hamas does not. We condemn the violence that has taken place in recent days, and we grieve the decades of oppression that have led to this violence.

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) stands firm in its support of Palestinians and their right to live free in their land, without occupation, aggression, and bloodshed. We support and protect Israel's right to exist as a free and sovereign nation...

We urge all leaders to immediately put an end to the bloodshed, release those who are captured and held hostage, end the fighting, and open humanitarian corridors to get medical attention to everyone who is in need.

Rev. Bronwen Boswell, Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, PCUSA

Full article can be read at:

<https://www.pcusa.org/news/2023/10/13/acting-stated-clrk-condemns-violence-israel-palest/>

## Gifts of the Spirit



### Sermon Series 2023 continues...

- Nov 5 Kindness & 8<sup>th</sup> Commandment  
*Gleanliness is next to Godliness*  
All Saints Sunday
- Nov 12 Peace & 9<sup>th</sup> Commandment  
*Sticks and Stones*
- Nov 19 Thankfulness & 10<sup>th</sup> Commandment  
*Hoarding Contentment*  
Pledge Sunday, Communion

## Pastor's Coffee Hours at Corner Café



Mondays from 9-11 am.  
(Except 2nd Mondays)

Please stop by for a chat.

## *A Note of Thanks from Pastor Nancy*

Thank you, my dear ones, for your gifts and cards of appreciation! I am so very grateful for the people of Dryden Presbyterian as well as all your dedication and support of our ministry.

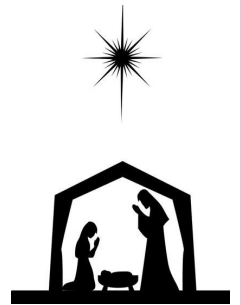
To God be the glory!  
Pastor Nancy



## Live Nativity Drive-Thru

Trumansburg Baptist Church  
December 9 and 10, 6:00—8:00 p.m.

There will be a carpool from First Presbyterian of Dryden on December 9:00 at 5:00 p.m.



## *Time to Order Poinsettias*

'Tis the season, or soon will be .

Please sign up for your Poinsettia (\$7.99/each).

Last day to order and pay  
Friday Nov. 17th.  
Thank you.



# Millie's Musings: Celebrating Pastor Appreciation

To those who had some fun with a thank you to Pastor Nancy in October, we tip our hats. Following is one of the smiles she received

## ODE TO NANCY



California born and bred with stops along the way  
Gave New York a blessing when she came here to stay.  
This gal tried retail, office work and even did some teachin'  
Before she learned the Lord our God wanted her for preachin'.

He gave her orders loud and clear that she should go ahead  
To Dryden with her suitcase where Piers made her a bed.  
We welcomed her with opened arms where we are celebratin'  
Cause October is the month that we show appreciatin'

## EVEN IN THE RAIN WE FILLED THE TRUCK!



A big thank you to everyone who helped with Blue Jean Sunday. Thank you to Dottie Slocum & Joyce Day for providing the lunch. Raking, window washing, cleaning, trimming, lock replacement, storm windows put on & fixing doors all got done. It's amazing what can be done when we work together.

**Thank you.**



## MISSIONS NEWS

Thanks to all who were able to contribute to the church's continued support of Heifer International. Next month we may be able to have a total amount to share with the congregation. Meanwhile, we recently have been made aware that our support will be eligible for participation in a matching grant.

Posted on the bulletin board is an acknowledgment letter also expressing gratitude from Church World Services that we contributed \$470 to their blanket provision.

The Salvation Army has notified us of several ways that help may be offered to them for the Christmas season. At last session meeting, we elected to host an Angel Tree, which we were able to do with our youth group a few years ago and now the same is handled by the Salvation Army. We plan to have a tree in place mid-November with angel tags on it listing one toy (valued up to \$40) and a clothing item. Every angel represents a child that has been signed up to receive Christmas help. The gifts go to Dryden children, as did the gifts collected last year for family adoption. We also will be allowed to insert with the gifts a note identifying this expression of love as being from our church. The letter from the Salvation Army about their programs will be posted on the bulletin board in the event anyone wishes to help another program such as the Adopt-a-Family on their own. Noted of particular need are gift cards (from a suitable store such as Old Navy) for teenagers. Watch the Sunday worship bulletin for updates.

### Note from the Kitchen cupboard about THANKSGIVING BASKETS

During the month of November we kick off our annual Thanksgiving Baskets Drive. This year we will provide 100 local families with a turkey and all the fixings. We are excited about teaming up again with fellow Christian congregations from First Presbyterian Church, Holy Cross, Risen Hope Community Church, Covenant Love and Dryden United Methodist Church. We are **not** collecting food items this year.

**Financial donations** should be placed in an envelope marked "Kitchen Cupboard Thanksgiving Baskets", or make a check out to:

**Dryden Kitchen Cupboard** and write "Thanksgiving Baskets" in the memo line.



## WORSHIP/PRAISE NEWS

"Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart." Psalm 37:4

When we find joy in God's presence, it gives him great pleasure. When he sees our delight in him, he is moved, and he blesses us with the desires of our heart. It makes God happy when he sees us in church. As church attendance numbers fade across the nation, and in our own community and congregation and online services become more convenient, it's important to remember that church attendance for you and your family is so important. You can't experience the power of a room full of believers worshipping together from your sofa.

The church needs you and you need the church. If and when possible, come to church and encourage others to attend – you will put a smile on God's face.

Continued thanks and appreciation to all who have volunteered to usher. There's room for more – and don't shy away from being liturgist.

We will honor all loved ones who have passed away this last year during our All Saints remembrance on Nov. 5. Please add names to the memorial book in Fellowship Hall

Kids Club seems to be rolling along; we would appreciate new faces to share God's message with our youngest members. Lessons are prepared for you – just pick one up and go!

Join us for the Hanging of the Greens on Sunday, Nov. 26. After we've decorated the church, join us for a light luncheon.

Advent Sundays are Dec. 3, 10, 17 and 24.

Dec. 17 – special skit by the youth of the church; "Wonderous Sight" – don't miss it!

Dec. 24 – join us for TWO services, 10:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Looking ahead, we will celebrate Epiphany on Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup>; "star gifts" will be handed out to the congregation on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>; Pastor Nancy and the Deacons will deliver star gifts to individuals joining us on zoom. If you would like a star gift, please leave your name with Sue at the church office.

Please pray for peace and safety for the people of Ukraine, Israel and Palestine and for our good and gracious Lord to change the hearts and minds of Hamas, Hezbollah and other terrorist groups.

## RESOURCE COMMITTEE REPORT

January through September Operating Results	2022 Actual (9 months)	2023 Actual (9 months)	2023 Budget (9 months)	2023 Budget (12 months)
<b>Operating Income</b>				
Pledge Receipts	\$ 67,686	\$ 81,085	\$ 80,550	\$ 107,400
Non-Pledge & Plate Contributions	8,003	6,690	7,500	10,000
Interest, Dividends & Misc Income	4,985	9,533	10,125	13,500
Expenses	(95,283)	(116,193)	(122,149)	(167,422)
Net Operating Income Before Transfer to/from Reserves	(14,608)	(18,885)	(23,974)	(36,522)
<b>Transfer to/from Reserve Accounts</b>				
To Capital, Copier and Piano & Organ Reserve Accounts	(2,400)	(2,700)	(2,700)	(3,600)
From Insurance Proceeds for Preliminary Repairs of Water Damage to the Nursery		920		
From Memorials and Other Savings for Purchase of: Overhead Projectors, Stoves, Phone System and Fire Alarm Dialer System	1,798	4,361	-	-
<b>Net Operating Income After Transfer to/from Reserves</b>	<b><u>\$ (15,210)</u></b>	<b><u>\$ (16,304)</u></b>	<b><u>\$ (26,674)</u></b>	<b><u>\$ (40,122)</u></b>

( ) Denotes reduction to Income.

### Operating Results:

#### Income

Income through September is 21% higher than last year and less than 1% below the budget. Pledge receipts are in line with the budget, plate is about 10% higher and non-pledge contributions are 28% lower. Thanks to the investment in CDs, "Interest & Dividend" income is significantly higher than 2022 and should equal or exceed the budget by the end of the year. Expenses through September are \$6,000 below the budget, primarily because pastor professional development expenditures have been lower than projected (may be timing), administrative costs have been lower and repairs to the parking lot were delayed until next year due to shortage of workers. It is difficult to compare expenses with last year because the payment pattern of insurance premiums has been different between the two years.

#### Net Income

Based on the budget, a net loss (before transfer to/from reserve accounts) of \$23,974 was projected at the end of September. The actual was \$18,885.

2024 Preliminary Budget – Session has passed a preliminary 2024 budget. More information will be sent out with the Stewardship letter.

---

### PROPERTY REPORT: UPDATE ON DRIVEWAY/PARKING LOT

R. C. Wilson has notified us that the driveway paving and the parking lot sealing will be postponed until 2024. The cost will be the same. Any donations made towards this project are greatly appreciated.

First Presbyterian Church of Dryden  
 6 North Street / PO Box 42  
 Dryden, NY 13053  
 607-844-8321  
[drydenpresoffice@gmail.com](mailto:drydenpresoffice@gmail.com)  
 Church Office Hours Tues. – Thurs.  
 9:00 a.m. - noon

Nancy Didway, Pastor  
 304.941.9659 text/call\*  
[Pastor.nancy@drydenpres.com](mailto:Pastor.nancy@drydenpres.com)

Pastor's office hours are  
 Monday through Thursday 10 a.m.—2 p.m.  
 \*The best way to contact her is by her cell phone.

Session	Deacons	Staff
Discipleship ..... Dan Carpenter	Phyllis Byrn	Clerk of Session .....John Scott
Fellowship ..... Cheryl Nemecek	Evan Carpenter	Office Admin. .... Susan Barry
Harmony ..... Jeanine Scott	Christi LaPlant	Treasurer .....Dottie Slocum
Missions ..... Chuck Nydam	Fran Sincerbeaux	Financial Secy. .... Jay Engels
Property ..... Dave Parsons	Dottie Slocum	Organist ..... Michael Singbusch
Resources .....Joyce Day	MJ Uttech	Music Director .....Scott Miller
..... Brad Perkins	Connie Walker	Custodian ..... Rob White
Worship ..... Doug Barton		Librarian ..... Gretchen Young
.....Brenda Carpenter		

Cleaning House—Poem submitted by Cheryl Nemecek in line with Blue Jean Sunday

Last Week I threw out Worrying,  
 it was getting old and in the way.  
 It kept me from being me;  
 I couldn't do things God's way.

I threw out those Inhibitions;  
 they were just crowding me out.  
 Made room for my New Growth,  
 got rid of my old dreams and doubts.

I threw out a book on MY PAST  
 (didn't have time to read it anyway).  
 Replaced it with New Goals,  
 started reading it today.

I threw out hate and bad memories,  
 (remember how I treasured them so)?

Got me a NEW PHILOSOPHY too,  
 threw out the one from long ago.

Brought in some new books too,  
 called I CAN, I WILL, and I MUST.  
 Threw out I might, I think and I ought.  
 WOW, You should've seen the dust.

I ran across an OLD FRIEND,  
 haven't seen him in a while.  
 I believe his name is GOD,  
 Yes, I really like His style.

He helped me to do some cleaning  
 and added some things Himself.  
 Like PRAYER, HOPE and FAITH,  
 Yes, I placed them right on the shelf.

I picked up this special thing  
 and placed it at the front door.  
 I FOUND IT - it's called PEACE.  
 Nothing gets me down anymore.

Yes, I've got my house looking nice.  
 Looks good around the place.  
 For things like Worry and Trouble  
 there just isn't any place.

It's good to do a little house cleaning,  
 get rid of the old things on the shelf.  
 It sure makes things brighter;  
 maybe you should TRY IT YOURSELF.


Author Unknown

November Birthdays	
Bill Bailey	15
Marvin McHerron	23
Mike Singbusch	26
Cameron Park-Miller	27
There are no November Anniversaries	

**WEB Items for collection**


**November :**  
Ramen Noodles

**December:**  
Pudding cups




**Kitchen Cupboard and Clothing Shed:**

Mon, Fri. and last Sat .of each month  
 11 a.m. to noon;  
 Wed. 5 to 6 p.m.



*Flowers*

Providing flowers for the sanctuary during the worship service is another way to celebrate happy times or to honor/ remember a loved one. If your flowers mark a special occasion that you wish to share with your church family, be sure to note that down on the flower calendar. Artificial flowers are a nice choice that can be used for more than one Sunday.




# November 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
29	30	31	1	2	3	4	
			Bulletin Deadline Kitchen Cup- board 5-6		Kitchen Cup- board 11-12	Presbytery Meeting	
Daylight Savings	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Choir 9:45&11:30							
<b>Steward- ship Sunday</b>	Pastor@Café 9-11	<b>Revelation Study 11 am</b>	Bulletin Deadline  Kitchen Cup- board 5-6		Kitchen Cup- board 11-12	<b>Veterans Day</b>	
<b>All Saints' Sunday W&amp;F Mtg 1130</b>	Kitchen Cup- board 11-12						
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
Choir 9:45&11:30	Kitchen Cup- board 11-12	<b>Motions due</b>	Bulletin Deadline	Reports Due			
<b>Coffee Hour 1130</b>		<b>Finance Mtg 930</b> Quilters 10 am	Kitchen Cup- board 5-6		Kitchen Cup- board 11-12		
	Pastor Nancy Out of Office	<b>Revelation Study 11 am</b> <b>Deacons 7 pm</b>		<b>Small Church Vital webinar 7 pm</b>			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
Choir 9:45&11:30	Pastor@Café 9-11	<b>Revelation Study 11 am</b>	Bulletin Deadline		Kitchen Cup- board?	Kitchen Cup- board 11-12	
<b>Pledge Sunday</b>	Kitchen Cup- board 11-12	<b>Session 7 pm</b>	Kitchen Cup- board?	<b>Thanksgiving Day</b>			
<b>Communion</b>			Dec. Newslet- ter Deadline	Office Closed	Office Closed		
26	27	28	29	30	1	2	
Choir 9:45&11:30		Quilters 10 am	Bulletin Deadline Kitchen Cup- board 5-6				
Hanging Greens	Kitchen Cup- board 11-12						
Pastor Nancy on Vacation Nov 26 – Dec 2.							

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF DRYDEN  
6 North Street, PO Box 42  
Dryden, NY 13053 USA



The First Presbyterian Church  
of Dryden

6 North Street, PO Box 42  
Dryden, NY 13053 USA  
Phone: 607-844-8321  
E-mail: [drydenpresoffice@gmail.com](mailto:drydenpresoffice@gmail.com)  
Pastor Nancy Didway

Join us as we worship  
the Lord

Worship — Sunday, 10:30 a.m.  
(Fall/Winter Hours)