

Dryden Presbyterian Church Newsletter

October 2023



Disaster Preparedness When the Church Prays

The smallest things can break the world.

Words gravely spoken and dreadful to hear:
divorce... malignant... declined... complications...
regret to inform you...

Or just a sound... like a phone ringing at 2:37 am...
like the squeal of tires approaching behind you... like
an unexpected thud in the next room...

You just went from spinning in your daily orbit to
absolute stillness. Not peace-like-a-river stillness.
Dead stillness. Dead silent stillness. Even the frantic

rushing around you doesn't seem to move. Only the pounding in your ears tells you that you are still alive.

If you have been there, you know what I'm talking about. That permanent impact crater inside you that hides your deepest darkness. The day so painful that you know what it tasted like.

Hollywood likes to scare us every Halloween with zombies chasing people screaming down the street, frantically slamming doors on outstretched hands of the undead. Sensational fantasy.

Real fear is becoming one of those walking wounded, not fully alive, stumbling and reaching out for some kind of contact with what you used to hold dear.

Here's the good news: there's another smallest thing that can bring hope for the after-it-all, strength for the overcoming-the-worst, and the certainty of God-with-us. The church in prayer.

It so insignificant—to close our eyes and whisper a few names for people and situations we do not know. But in this very trifling of hearts and words, we agree in the name of Jesus, wielding the incredible power heal the broken world.

Let us not neglect this privilege, this need, this call to arms. Let us pray together.

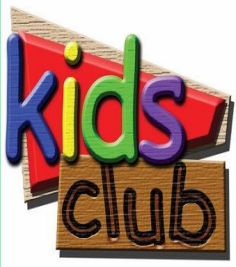
Peace be with you! - Pastor Nancy

**Pastor's Coffee Hours
at Corner Café**
Mondays from 9-11 am.
(Except 2nd Mondays)
Please stop by for a chat.

Be sure to check out the new Prayer Bulletin every Sunday! With more information than just a list of names, we are empowered and encouraged in our daily prayers for others.

Contact the church office to list your request.





Kids' Club got off to a great start in September!

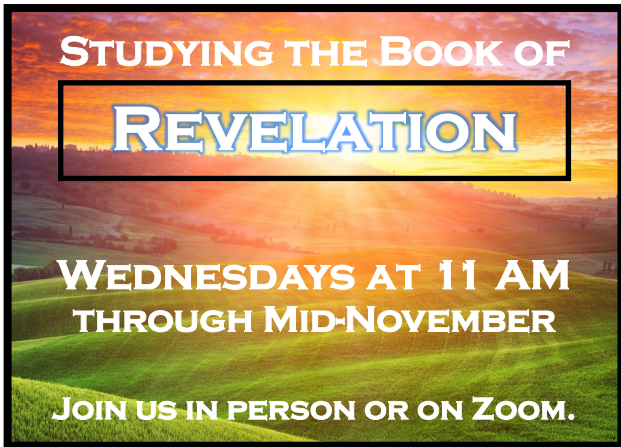
So far our club includes four kids: Nathaniel & Evelyn and Collin & Connor as well as some teachers: Dan & Natalie, Fran, and MJ & Chuck.

There's room for lots more so bring a kid to church!

October Lessons:

- 1 God Loves Abram
- 8 Jacob Steals a Blessing
- 15 Plagues of Egypt
- 22 Exodus
- 29 Crossing the Red Sea
- 30

We also get Heifer Handouts throughout October!



Pastor's Coffee Hours at Corner Café



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

Please stop by for a chat.

Gifts of the Spirit



Sermon Series 2023 continues...

- Oct 1 Joy & 4th Commandment
Restore joy and wellness
World Communion Sunday & Heifer Sunday
- Oct 8 Goodness & 5th Commandment
God's goodness grown in us
- Oct 15 – Guest preacher, Gabe Carpenter
- Oct 22 Gentleness & 6th Commandment
Meek not Weak
Blue Jeans Sunday
- Oct 29 Faithfulness & 7th Commandment
A promise is a Promise
Reformation Sunday
- Nov 5 Kindness & 8th Commandment
Gleanliness is next to Godliness
All Saints Sunday
- Nov 12 Peace & 9th Commandment
Sticks and Stones
- Nov 19 Thankfulness & 10th Commandment
Hoarding Contentment
Pledge Sunday, Communion

BLUE JEANS SUNDAY

Sunday, October 22nd has been designated as Blue Jeans Sunday (Rain Date October 29). Please come to Church in your "Sunday best" blue jeans. We'll have a light lunch after the morning service and then enjoy fellowship as we clean up the building & grounds in preparation for winter. A sign-up list for various projects will be located in the Fellowship Hall. Bring rakes, tarps, blowers or whatever tools you might need. Hopefully we will see you on the 22nd, but if you are busy that day, feel free to work on your project some other day before the 22nd as the village truck will be there for loading that day. See you on the 22nd!



Worship/Praise Team

“Back To Church” was celebrated on September 10. the return to 10:30 a.m. service and special recognition to our Senior members over 70, and grandparents. We also celebrated the first “Kids Club” program, led by Dan and



Dan Carpenter leads first Kids Club lesson. Natalie Carpenter.

The first Sunday in October is World Communion Sunday, which celebrates our oneness in Christ with all of our Christian brothers and sisters around the world. The Celebration of World Wide Communion Sunday was adopted as a denominational practice in the Presbyterian Church (US) in 1936.

Gabe Carpenter will be our guest preacher on October 15 while Pastor Nancy is on study leave. We always look forward to a sound, Biblical message from Gabe and look forward to your presence in church.

A survey from Dan Reiland, The Pastors Coach, tells us that the most common reason people check out our church is because **someone invited them**. While there’s lots of conversation about church attendance patterns these days, a new reality is that people connect more slowly than in the past and disconnect more quickly than we’ve previously experienced.

Here are three big reasons why people attend church less frequently (not in any order):
Online church is provided 24/7 on demand; so simply put, there is less perceived need to physically attend in-person church.

Families are busier now than ever; from demands in their jobs to sports for their kids, people are on the go nearly seven days a week.

People get bored faster than lightening; if guests attend our church and it gives off even a hint of being out of date, not fresh, “seen this before,” or in some way not relevant or behind, they are gone!

It’s difficult, if not impossible, to compete with the above findings. Our effort and energy will be invested better in why people DO come to church. This brings us back to the top reason (presented in last months newsletter) why people come back to church – **the presence of God is felt**. Join us in church Sunday mornings and feel the unmistakable awareness of the presence and power of God at work. It may be inspirational and filled with emotion, or a more quiet and peaceful stirring within, but however it is experienced, the presence of God is alive and present at the First Presbyterian Church of Dryden. Invite a friend to join you.

A Note from the Missions Committee

From generous response of the congregation to the need for personal hygiene items at Dryden Central School, four large shopping bags of those items were collected over the summer to be passed on to the school. Mary Hicks, school social worker, noted our efforts with a nice thank you note. Thanks to all who were able to contribute. As the need is likely to persist, we may do this project again next year.

During October, Mission Committee will be seeking congregational support of Heifer International which it has done for many years. Heifer started with the idea of supplying a cow for future food source rather than a cup of milk and then passing on to others from the original recipients of gifts the fruits of those gifts. This philosophy continues to guide Heifer as the need to assist our brothers and sisters in need still exists. The World Bank currently estimates about 628 million people around the world as a consequence of several factors still live in extreme poverty. Forming self-help groups is foundational in Heifer’s sustainable locally led development approach to help overcome poverty. These groups typically consist of 15-25 people who are small holder farmers coming together for collective wisdom and support. Home-led and with Heifer support, they receive training in such things as animal care, technical advice, and business knowledge. They are very often oriented toward groups of women who have been marginalized in their communities. As a result of these group efforts not only do they get economic benefits, but they accumulate social capital that benefits the community as well.

An example of Heifer work may be seen in Bangladesh, a country with many people in poverty, where 64,000 women are formed in 2500 self-help groups, which are further federated into 43 agricultural cooperatives.

Support of Heifer International is evidence of belief in the Mission Statement of our church as it is printed in the Sunday worship bulletin.

During October, there will be inserts and offering envelopes in your bulletins. Your support of this church’s mission project as you are able is invited.



Barb Davidson, Pastor Nancy, Nancy Hicks, Hellon Jones, Linda Nydam, MJ Uttech and Carol LaPlant pictured with the many hygiene items collected by the congregation over the summer and donated to the Dryden High School. Thank you to all who donated!

MILLIE'S MUSINGS -NEW FALL BEGINNINGS



Millie will devote this month's column to asking folks to think about a closer relationship with your church congregation.

Summer is behind us, and fall will bring new opportunities to lend a

hand. Remind yourself how long it has been since you have attended Bible Study, ushered, served communion, provided sanctuary flowers, helped with Blue Jeans Sunday, sang in the choir, worked at the Rummage Sale, provided a ride to a doctor for a friend, baked or purchased cookies for a Coffee Hour or made a casserole for a social event?

Your involvement promises a reward of shared companionship, laughter, tasty treats and tasks that promote Christian growth, community support, and friendships shared with folks who love and live by the teachings of our Lord.

Coming activities are being organized for the Advent Season, watch for opportunities for your participation with of the Hanging of the Greens, Advent reading, Live Nativity AND socials.

Coming soon will be a new bulletin board where you can sign up for various activities. While there, leave a friendly greeting on the Deacon's cards to express your best wishes to friends being remembered.

Join us on a Sunday morning for a powerful message addressing the Fruits of the Spirits and the Ten Commandments. I've got a basic seat in the house through a hole in the baseboard, but you could have a pew!

Love to you all,
Millie the Church Mouse

New Address for Phyllis Smith

Phyllis has moved up to the 4th floor. She is in room 409. Her new address is 409 Bella Vista Dr Ithaca, NY 14850; and her new phone # is 607 375-6409.



FROM THE FELLOWSHIP TEAM

"Winter is an etching, Spring a watercolor, Summer an oil painting, and Autumn a mosaic of them all."

-Stanley Horowitz

Fall is here and with that coffee hours are in full swing every 2nd Sunday after Church. Please take this opportunity to "connect" with each other. And also, encourage the "shy ones" to stay. We will have a luncheon on Blue Jean Sunday, Oct. 22nd, rain date Oct. 29th led by Joyce and Dottie. Look for sign up sheets.

Being a Christian is Like Being a Pumpkin

A lady recently asked her co-worker what it was like to be a Christian?

The lady replied, "It's like being a pumpkin: God picks you from the patch, brings you in, and washes off all the dirt you may have gotten from the other pumpkins. Then he cuts the top off, and scoops out all the yucky stuff. He removes the seeds of doubt, hate, greed, etc., then He carves you a new smiling face and puts His light inside of you to shine for all the world to see.

Share this with others, especially those who may still be in the pumpkin patch.



(anonymous)

Check out the new Bench!

Make sure you check out the beautiful new bench outside the Kitchen Cupboard. Thanks to the hard work of Brad Perkins and Bob Watros, visitors to the Kitchen Cupboard now have a perfect place to rest their bags or themselves. Thank you both for your thoughtfulness!



RESOURCE COMMITTEE REPORT

January through August Operating Results	2022 Actual (8 months)	2023 Actual (8 months)	2023 Budget (8 months)	2023 Budget (12 months)
Operating Income				
Pledge Receipts	\$ 60,839	\$ 72,244	\$ 71,600	\$ 107,400
Non-Pledge & Plate Contributions	7,394	6,375	6,667	10,000
Interest, Dividends & Misc Income	4,422	8,156	9,000	13,500
Expenses	(78,286)	(102,027)	(107,060)	(167,422)
To Capital, Copier and Piano & Organ Reserve Accounts	(2,100)	(2,400)	(2,400)	(3,600)
From Designated for Purchase of Stoves	-	1,423	-	-
From Insurance for Preliminary Repair of Water Damage	1,798	920	-	-
From Dave Smith Memorial for Fire Alarm Cellular Dialer System	-	1,125	-	-
From Memorials for Purchase of Phone System	-	1,813	-	-
 Net Operating Income	 <u>\$ (5,933)</u>	 <u>\$ (12,370)</u>	 <u>\$ (22,193)</u>	 <u>\$ (40,122)</u>

() Denotes reduction to Income.
Negative Net Income will be covered by the Session Discretionary Reserve.

Operating Results:

Income

In total, income through August is 19% above same-time last year and less than 1% below 8/12ths of the annual budget. Pledge + non-pledge + plate contributions are 15% higher than last year and virtually equal to 8/12ths of the annual budget. The \$200,000 investment in CDs has significantly increased "Interest & Dividend" income above last year and should equal or exceed the budget by the end of the year.

Expenses

Expenses through August are \$5,000 below the budget and \$24,000 above last year. \$21,000 is due to higher "Preaching the Word" costs as we had a one-half-time interim pastor for the first 5 months last year.

Net Income

Based on the budget, a net loss of \$22,193 was forecast through the end of August. The actual was \$12,370. The main reasons for the difference are (a) \$5,000 lower expenditures and (b) \$4,400 of Memorials and other savings used to pay for the purchase of the new stoves, fire alarm cellular dialer system and new telephone system.

FAMILY LIFE NETWORK LADIES CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Family Life is excited to invite all ladies to come for the annual Ladies Christmas Luncheon!

Attendees will enjoy a delicious banquet followed by keynote speaker Sharon Jaynes. Sharon has been encouraging women through ministry for over 25 years. Her passion is to encourage and empower women to walk in courage and confidence as they grasp their true identity as a child of God and a co-heir with Christ.

This event tends to sell out fast, so don't wait to get your tickets!

Date & Location: Thursday, November 30th at Family Life Center in Bath, NY.

Time 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. with doors opening at 11:15 a.m. Price: \$25

Please contact Jeanine (email or phone) if you are interested, and for information on payment.

Drivers needed.



First Presbyterian Church of Dryden

6 North Street / PO Box 42

Dryden, NY 13053

607-844-8321

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

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
ResourcesJoyce Day	MJ Uttech	Music Director Scott Miller
..... Brad Perkins	Connie Walker	Custodian Rob White
Worship Doug Barton		Librarian..... Gretchen Young
.....Brenda Carpenter		



Kitchen Cupboard and Clothing Shed:

Mon. & Fri. 11 a.m. to noon; Wed. 5 to 6 p.m.
Last Sat. of each month 11a.m.—noon.

October Birthdays

Hellon Jones	2
Mary Hicks	7
Christi LaPlant	9
Lee Ann Parker	9
Sue Barry	15
Chris Baurle	17
Piers Bramham	28
Christopher Taylor	21
Darcy Riggs	23
Peter Nydam	30

October Anniversaries

Byron & Nancy Newbury 27


WEB Items for collection in October:

Individual fruit cups



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.



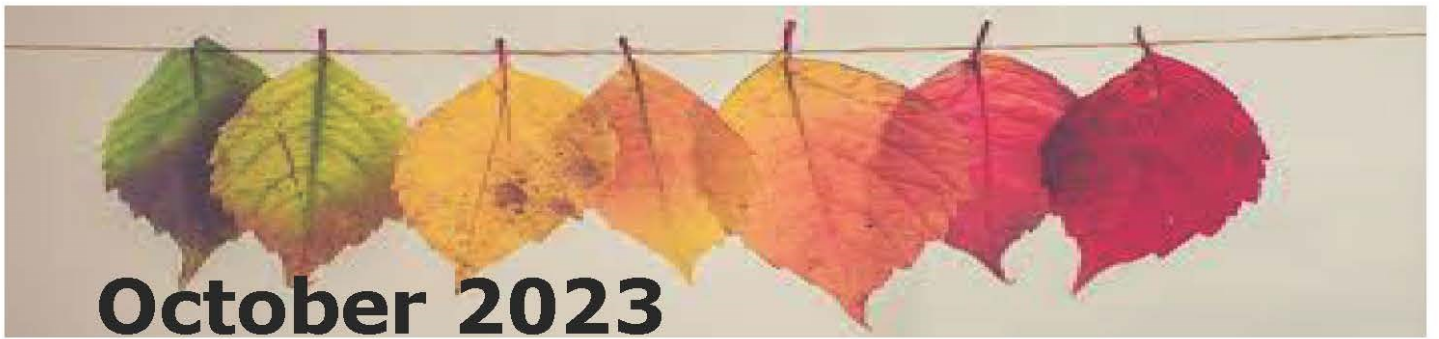
For more information, contact the

Dryden Presbyterian Church

office: 607-844-8321

or

drydenpresoffice@gmail.com



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Choir 945/11301 Heifer Sunday	2 Pastor@Café 9-11	3 Revelation Study 11 am	4 Bulletin Deadline	5 Session Planning Mtg.	6	7
World Communion Sunday	Kitch. Cupb. 11- 12		Kitch. Cupboard 5-6		Kitch. Cupb. 11- 12	
Memorial Bk Out						
Choir 945/11308 Coffee Hour 1130	9 Kitch. Cupb. 11- 12	10 Motions Due Finance Mtg 930 Quilters 10 am	11 Donations 9-12 Bulletin Deadline	12 Donations 1-4	13 Rummage Sale tbd	14 Rummage Sale tbd
Rummage Pricing Meeting 12 pm		Rummage Set Up (tbd)	Kitch. Cupb. 5-6	Reports Due	Kitch. Cupb. 11- 12	
Pastor Nancy on Study Leave Oct 9 - 15.						
15 Choir 945/1130	16 Kitch. Cupb. 11- 12	17 Revelation Study 11 am	18 Bulletin Deadline	19 Newsletter Deadline	20	21
Pulpit Supply Gabe Carpenter	Pastor Nancy off	Deacons 7 pm Session 7 pm	Kitch. Cupb. 5-6			
22	23 Pastor@Café 9-11	24 Quilters 10 am	25 Bulletin Deadline	26	27	28 Kitch. Cupb. 11-12
Choir 945/1130	Kitch. Cupb. 11- 12	Revelation Study 11 am	Kitch. Cupb. 5-6		Kitch. Cupb. 11- 12	
29 Choir 945/1130	30 Pastor@Café 9-11	31	1	2	3	4
Reformation Sunday		Revelation Study 11 am				
Blue Jean Rain Date	Kitch. Cupb. 11- 12					

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
Pastor Nancy Didway

Join us as we worship
the Lord

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