

**Dryden Presbyterian
Church
Newsletter
2018**



An Invitation From the Pastor. Advent is the precursor to Christmas, it is the season of waiting but not just waiting, doing so with expectant hope for the coming and second-coming of Christ. This Advent Season, I'd like to invite you to remember that as people of faith, this season is about celebrating Christ. Instead of the constant frenzy associated with the holidays, try adding these daily "Faith Practices" into the Advent Season. Happy Waiting!

Advent Faith Practices



SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

<p>Instead of focusing on material things this Advent, focus on faith! This advent faith practices calendar rotates through three types of practices: prayer [P] service [S] and spiritual practice [SP] Make this calendar work for you and your family by adapting it to suit your needs. If you are unable to complete one of the practices on a specific day, just skip over it and pick it up on the next day. Visit https://www.facebook.com/TraciMarieSmithAuthor during December for more ideas and daily inspiration.</p>						<p>1. [SP] Waiting. Practice waiting today by taking a few extra moments to rest between activities today.</p>
<p>2. [S] Who in your community is in special need of a note, call, or visit? Make an effort to check up on that person.</p>	<p>3. [P] Today's prayer word is HOPE. What does it mean to have hope? Draw a picture of something hopeful or pray for a hope you have.</p>	<p>4. [SP] Silence. How long can you sit in silence? Try one minute, two minutes or even five minutes!</p>	<p>5. [S] Write a note of appreciation to someone in a helping or serving profession to tell them how much you value their work.</p>	<p>6. [P] Hope, continued. Today, light one candle for hope.</p>	<p>7. [SP] Imagination. Look at the clouds or the grass or snow outside. What do you see there?</p>	<p>8. [S] Donate food or other needed items to an organization that serves those in need.</p>
<p>9. [P] Peace. What gives you peace? Thank God for peaceful things.</p>	<p>10. [SP] Gratitude Practice gratitude today by listing the things for which you are thankful.</p>	<p>11. [S] Make a special effort to offer a smile or kind gesture (such as opening the door) for a stranger today.</p>	<p>12. [P] Peace, continued. Light two candles today. One for hope and one for peace.</p>	<p>13. [SP] Play! Play a game together as a family. Did you know play can be a spiritual practice? It can!</p>	<p>14. [S] Pick up trash around your neighborhood or other public place.</p>	<p>15. [P] Pray for others today. Who do you know who needs an extra word of prayer to God? Write their name down.</p>
<p>16. [SP] Beauty. Take a walk outside and notice three beautiful things.</p>	<p>17. [S] Do something kind for a neighbor. Shovel their walk, leave a plant, or write a kind note.</p>	<p>18. [P] Today's prayer word is joy. What brings you joy? Draw a picture of it or say a prayer.</p>	<p>19. [SP] Listening. It is a spiritual discipline to listen well. Ask someone in your family three questions. Listen closely to their answer.</p>	<p>20. [S] Compliment a stranger today.</p>	<p>21. [P] Joy, continued. Light three candles. One for hope, one for peace, and one for joy.</p>	<p>22. [SP] Hospitality. Invite someone to come to your house today.</p>
<p>23. [S] Give a gift to someone who really needs it today.</p>	<p>24. [P] Love. Today's prayer word is love. Draw a picture of someone you love.</p>	<p>25. [P] Love, continued. Light four candles today. One for hope, one for peace, one for joy, and one for love.</p>	<p>This calendar brought to you by Traci Smith, author of <i>Faithful Families: Creating Sacred Moments at Home</i>. It's a book full of simple and easy to implement faith practices for your family. Find it on Amazon, Barnes and Noble, or at Chalice Press!</p>			

Church Information

The church office is open Monday through Thursday from
9:00 a.m. to noon.

Pastor Virginia Coakley (844-8321)

Clerk of Session: John Scott (844-9206)

The Church Office Administrator is Arlene Krebs; she can be reached
at 844-8321 or email: drydenpresoffice@gmail.com

Co-chairs of Deacons: Karen Cotterill (844-9789)
and Linda Nydam (708-4210)

Funeral Director: Brad Perkins (844-8161)

Webmaster and Sound Technician: Frank Brackin - (fbrackin@me.com)



Sermons on the DPC web site: Thanks to Frank Brackin, you can now listen to sermons on our website. Go to <http://www.drydenpres.com>; click on "Listen to Worship." If possible, drop Frank an email, letting him know that you visited and that the recording worked. (fbrackin@me.com).



The Pastor's Schedule:

Pastor Virginia will be in the office Monday through Thursday. She is available for appointments or drop in hours from 9:00 until 1:00. The office number is 844-8321, her cell number is 857-312-7605. Her email address is pastorvirginiadrydenpres@gmail.com. If you have a pastoral emergency, please call the church or her cell phone. Pastor Virginia checks the church email often.



Federal privacy regulations prevent hospitals from giving out the names of people who have been admitted. That means that the Pastor may not be aware that someone in our church family is in the hospital and would like a visit. Please call the church office (844-8321) and let us know if a church member or friend been hospitalized.

If you would like to receive the newsletter by email, please contact: drydenpresoffice@gmail.com.

If you are receiving this newsletter by e-mail or mail and would like to be removed from the list, please call the church office.

We proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ,
feed the hungry, welcome the stranger and
love our neighbors as ourselves.





December 1 - Live Nativity and Dryden High School Band in the lawn by the Dryden fountain. 5 p.m.

December 2 - Communion



December 9 - Coffee Hour

Cantata 15 - Christmas Cantata 4 p.m.

Lead Me Back to Bethlehem by Pepper Choplin



December 20 - Blue Christmas at Dryden Methodist Church - 7 p.m.

December 24 - Christmas Eve Church Service 7:00 p.m.



December 25 - Christmas Day-Christ Has Risen!



December 30 - Pastor Joanne Bartel preaching



THIS WEEK'S DISCUSSION:

What does it really mean to have JOY?

Joy:

an inner sense of happiness that can carry you through hard times due to God's grace

Scripture

For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. -- Isaiah 55:12

Quote

Find joy in everything you choose to do. Every job, relationship, home... it's your responsibility to love it, or change it. -- Chuck Palahniuk

Discussion #1:

Some people say that having joy is a choice; your feelings on a subject will depend on how you decide to look at that. What situation is currently making you stressed or unhappy? What aspects of it could be seen as joyous if you looked at it differently? (James 1:2-3)

Discussion #2:

We Christians have a great gift of being able to say that when things look bleak, God is still in charge. He will create a happy ending in every story. What episodes of your life looked very bleak, but now you are able to see the good that came from them and feel joy? (Romans 8:28)



----- Cut-outs for lunchboxes, refrigerator posts, jacket pockets and mirrors! -----

For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
Isaiah 55:12

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Christian Education

December 2018 Christian Education Newsletter

Merry Christmas! According to scholars, there are between 300 and 400 prophecies about the coming of Jesus in the Old Testament. These predictions were made 600 or 700 years BEFORE the actual birth of Jesus. Isaiah, one of the prophets tells us in Isaiah 7:14 “Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.” Isaiah proclaimed a miracle: the mother of the Messiah (a virgin) would conceive a child. That is a miracle and was predicted about 2,740 years ago – that’s like someone in the 1300’s making a prediction about you today! This month we celebrate the miracle of the birth of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. There are many events happening this month to celebrate this miracle. Please join us!

December 1 – Live Nativity Play on the green in front of the church; this will take place at 5:00 p.m.; stay for meeting the animals, listening to the high school band, the village tree-lighting and arrival of Santa at 5:30.

December 9 – Special reading of the Candy Cane story by Dan Carpenter during the service.

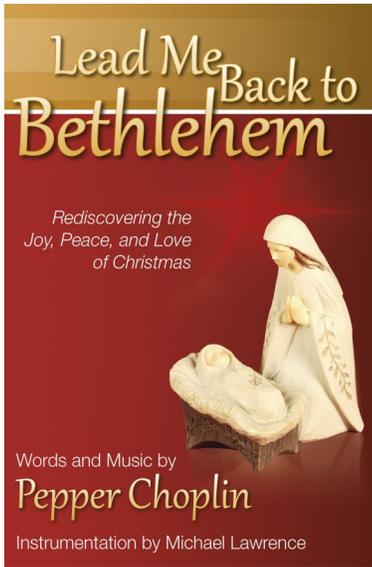
“Talking with God at Home”

One of the most popular Christmas song is “Joy To The World”. This month, use the “Talking with God at Home” page to talk with your children about having and finding joy. The lesson is based on Isaiah 55:12: “For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.” Help your little ones find joy this Christmas season.

Youth Group

The Youth Group will once again be sponsoring 3 families for Christmas. On December 2nd, the trees with the gift tags will be up in the fellowship hall. Please choose a tag, shop for the item(s) you are giving, and bring it back to the church, unwrapped, by December 16th.





Lead Me Back to Bethlehem
2018 Annual Christmas Cantata
words & music by Pepper Choplin

Saturday, December 15, 4:00 PM

featuring members of the
Dryden Presbyterian, Dryden Methodist &
Freeville Methodist Church Choirs

Please join us as the Dryden Presbyterian Church Choir again joins with our neighbors from next door and Freeville to present a Christmas cantata. Christmas carols both old and new mixed with other familiar tunes are combined with a re-telling of the Christmas story. In the composer's words "rediscovering the joy, peace, and love of Christmas." We hope to see you all there!

The Dryden Clothing Shed

Winter is here! Please check your closets for those coats, hats and mittens you never wear. You can easily donate them here. You can leave them inside by the administrative door. The shed is open during the same time as the Kitchen Cupboard. If you would like to volunteer hanging and folding clothes please contact Nancy Hicks.

Kitchen Cupboard

Thank you to all the volunteers that help in the Kitchen Cupboard. You all are God's hands helping in the feeding of the people.

The Kitchen Cupboard receives generous donations of canned goods and fresh vegetables, while financial donations enable the purchase of other necessities: bread, milk and meat. Thank you to all who faithfully fill KC's shelves month after month. You are making a difference!

WEB –Weekend Backpack Program

Your donations are making a difference in the lives of Dryden's neediest youngsters. Food is sent home each Friday in their backpacks for the week-end. These children otherwise might not have anything to eat until Monday at school. **In December we are collecting graham crackers.** Donations can be left in the administrative wing, in the box marked WEB.

Sanctuary Flowers

Thank you to all who continue to bring in flowers for the sanctuary for the year of 2018. We will be having the Advent Wreath for the month of December. So please think about who you can honor or have in memory for the year of 2019.



Finance and Facilities

January through October Operating Results					
	2017 Actual	2018 vs 2017	2018 Actual	Actual vs Budget	2018 Budget
Income	\$ 109,611	\$ 15,458	\$ 125,069	\$ 6,936	\$ 118,133
Operating Expenses	85,538	29,436	114,974	(948)	115,922
Non-Budgeted Expenses	<u>-</u>	<u>40,278</u>	<u>40,278</u>	<u>40,278</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Cash Flow	24,073	(54,255)	(30,182)	(32,394)	2,212
Net Reduction in Reserve Accounts	<u>24,073</u>	<u>(60,628)</u>	<u>(36,555)</u>	<u>(39,388)</u>	<u>2,833</u>
Balance	<u>\$ -</u>	\$ 6,373	<u>\$ 6,373</u>	\$ 6,995	<u>\$ (622)</u>

The changes in reserves include the budgeted increase to the capital & copier reserves and covers the pastor moving expenses, roof repairs, sound system upgrades (paid for by a special gift) and Fellowship Hall floor.

Operating Results through October:

Pledge receipts are currently \$4,000 behind budget. We pray that they will be caught up as they are a precursor as to what portion of the 2019 pledges will actually be received. Non-pledge contributions continue to be significantly ahead of last year and the budget. Operating expenses are in line with the budget.

Stewardship:

Thank you all for returning your pledge cards for 2019. As of November 18th, 35 pledges totaling \$100,030 have been received. Of those, 32 also pledged for 2018 and 3 are new for 2019. The change in the total amount pledged for the 32 repeat pledgers is up by 1.5%. A 5.1% increase in pledges would be needed to balance the budget provided with the stewardship letter. Hopefully the remaining pledges will be returned in the next week so that we can continue to plan for 2019. If anyone needs another card or wants to discuss the budget, please call Ernie Walker at 227-4969.

Charitable IRA Distributions:

You may be able to help balance our budget without affecting your out-of-pocket expenses by making a **federal tax-free charitable distribution to the Church from your traditional IRA or IRRA**. In order to do this, you must be 70½ or older at the time of the distribution. The distribution must be paid directly from the IRA or IRRA (**NOT** SEP or Simple IRAs) to the qualified charity and must be received no later than December 31st of the respective tax year. You must receive written confirmation from the qualifying recipient for each IRA charitable distribution and you cannot receive any goods or services for any such contribution. If you are interested, please consult with your financial and tax advisors. Go to this link for more information: <https://www.wealthmanagement.com/retirement-planning/tax-free-direct-charitableira-distributions>.

Snow Shoveling:

Charles Tippling has been hired to shovel snow for us this winter. He replaces James Kirkwyland who did a great job last year and now has a full-time job at Cornell. Charles is the owner of "The Movie House" on Main Street and shovels the walks for several of the neighboring businesses. He will now be shoveling for both our Church and the Methodist Church.

Christmas Joy

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) reflects God's gift to us, through the Christmas Joy offering, with generous gifts supporting church leaders - retired, present and future - who have pointed us to God. Even as we support our current and former church leaders, God is calling new leaders for our Church and world, through the ministry of Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color - offering students the means for a brighter future and enhanced opportunities to use their talents and skills to serve God, the Church and the world for years to come.

There will be an envelopes in the Sunday church bulletins for the next several weeks in December, please give generously.

For Your Information

After Thanksgiving Turkey Dinner

Deep Fried Turkey Dinner on Saturday November 24th, noon to 2pm, at the Community Church of Danby. The meal is free and everyone is invited.



On November 25th, our church will share a dish-to-pass dinner after the service followed by the *Hanging of the Greens*. Please bring a dish to share and join us for fun and fellowship! Church Life will provide the dessert.

Blue Christmas

You are Invited

Are you struggling this year? Not finding joy in the season?

Maybe you lost a loved one or lost a job. Perhaps a child grew up and moved away. Maybe someone betrayed you. Life just isn't what you hoped for. Or you may just be tired of all the commercialism and shopping. This will be a time focused on remembrance and hope for the future. We will share, and light candles, and worship the God who is here with us in the messiness of life.

BLUE CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICE

THURSDAY,
DECEMBER 20

At 7 PM



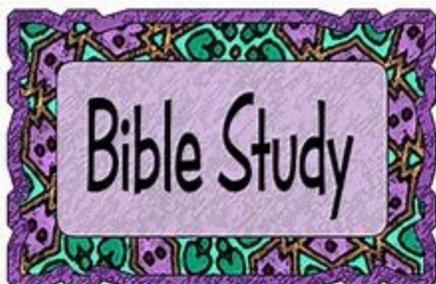
DRYDEN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Book Discussion

Wednesday Evening Book Discussion Group
December 5th
Everyone Welcome!

Meeting in the Fellowship Hall 6-7:30 pm.
First Wednesday of the month.
Light Supper Provided.

The book this month is
"Hither & Yon"
By Becca Stevens



Bible Study

Thursday morning Bible Study will meet at 10:00 am, November 29th for the first of four Advent reflections. They will also be deciding the time to resume after the holidays and what study to work on.

Prayers and Thanks



Jacquelin Ryan has requested prayers, she recently has had a bad fall.

Please pray for Brenda Carpenter and her parents.

Prayers for Kevin Ashman's aunt, Grace, for healing prayers.

Charles Decker was the former clerk of session for Afton Presbyterian Church, he passed away on Wednesday, November 7, 2018. Charles served as Afton's Town Historian for 43 years retiring in 2016. He graduated from Cornell with an agriculture degree; and then Syracuse University with a degree in Library Science. He was a member of the Afton Presbyterian Church since 1938; served on the Afton Library Board and the Afton Historical Board. Charles lived in Afton his entire life and loved this community and its history. A memorial ceremony will be held in the spring. He will be sorely missed.

Thank you all so much
for your prayers and thoughts of our
son, Levi, during his time in the hospital.
Your kindness is so appreciated
and it is comforting for us to know
so many people are rooting for him.
He may be small, but he has
already felt so much love.

With gratitude,

Lindsay, Keith +
Levi Williams



Levi Alan Williams
1 lb 13oz 4-3-18

Thank you Jan Hollenbeck
for sharing your grandson
with us.





December Birthday's

Caden Cooper	4
Chuck Nydam	6
Daryl Nydam	9
Cheryl Nemecek	18
Gretchen Young	18



HAPPY



ANNIVERSARY!

Ed and Nancy Couch December 8, 1956



Christmas Eve Mediation

This eve as silvery church bells chime,
 May Christmas take us back in time
 To that first holy, silent night
 When, in the heavens, a glorious light
 Shone down upon the manger stall
 Wherein was born the Lord of all.

Oh, may we hear the angels' song,
 And pause tonight 'mid busy throng
 To gaze above in velvet sky
 And find the Bethlehem star on high;
 It's shining still, this Christmas Eve
 For every soul who will believe.

Oh, may we, by its holy light,
 Be led to seek the Christ this night.
 We'll leave all worldly cares behind,
 And in the manger of our mind,
 We'll kneel, and offer praise and sing
 Hosannas to the newborn King.

Beverly J. Anderson

The Season of Advent

“Advent” means coming or arrival. This word has a double significance as in Advent we celebrate Christ’s coming into the world and look with longing for his coming again....We watch and pray with expectant hope for the establishment of God’s justice and return of the Prince of Peace. As the weeks of Advent progress, the focus shifts to thanks and praise for the birth of the one who has already come-Jesus Christ and Savior.”

Page 163 Book of Common Worship

Sidewalk Snow Removal

Let us welcome Charles Tipping, who will be shoveling our walks. Charles is the owner of “The Movie House” on Main Street and looks forward to working here at Dryden Presbyterian.



The January 2019 newsletter will be out by December 20. Any information you would like included needs to be into the church office by December 17, by 9 a.m.



Newsletter

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Live Nativity Community Christmas Tree Lighting 5:00 p.m.
2 Sun. Sch., Youth, Adult Classes, Choir 9:30 Worship 10:30 Communion 1st Sunday of Advent	3 Arlene Vacation KC 11-12	4	5 Bulletin items due 10 am KC 5-6	6 Prayer Shawl Knitters 1:00 WEB 7:00 Choir	7 Church office closed KC 11-12	8
9 Sun. Sch., Youth, Adult Classes, Choir 9:30 Worship 10:30 Coffee Hour 2nd Sunday of Advent	10 Arlene Vacation KC 11-12	11 Quilters 10:00 Deacons 6:00 p.m. Finance 7:00	12 Bulletin items due 10 am Boy Scout Roundtable 7:00pm KC 5-6	13 7:00 Choir	14 Church office closed KC 11-12 Youth Group 5-9pm	15 Cantata 4:00 p.m.  C.H.R.I.S.T.M.A.S CANTATA
16 Sun. Sch., Youth, Adult Classes, Choir 9:30 Youth Worship Service 3rd Sunday of Advent	17 <u>January newsletter items due 9:00 am</u>	18 Session 7:00	19 Bulletin items due 10 am Pastor Virginia on vacation KC 5-6	20 Prayer Shawl Knitters 1:00 Blue Christmas Dryden Methodist Church 7:00 Choir	21 Church office closed KC 11-12	22
23 Sun. Sch., Youth, Adult Classes, Choir 9:30 4th Sunday of Advent Worship 10:30	24 KC 11-12 CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE 7:00 P.M.	25 Merry Christmas  Christ is Born! Office Closed	26 Bulletin items due 10 am Pastor Virginia on vacation Arlene Vacation KC 5-6	27 Pastor Virginia on vacation	28 Church office closed KC 11-12	29 KC 11-12
30 Worship 10:30 Pastor Joanne Bartel preaching Pastor Virginia on vacation	31 New Year's Eve Office Closed	Merry Christmas  				

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

**The First Presbyterian Church
of Dryden**

Rev. Virginia Coakley

6 North Street, PO Box 42

Dryden, NY 13053 USA

Phone: 607-844-8321

E-mail: drydenpresoffice@gmail.com

Join us as we worship the Lord

**Worship — 10:30 a.m.
Winter Hours**