

## Dryden Presbyterian Church



### Newsletter, February 2022

*“Only he who sees the invisible can do the impossible” -- Ruth DeJong*

We do not lose heart...because we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen; for the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal” (II Cor. 4:16-18).

If the Covid pandemic is not enough to worry about, have you listened to the news lately? China is threatening “to fight us in the sky;” Russia is waiting for an excuse to invade the Ukraine, Nigeria is plagued with kid-napping and hostage-taking, airlines warn the public of massive flight disruptions with the implementation of 5G. And if that isn’t enough, did you know that a giant asteroid is heading perilously close to our planet earth? There’s enough scary news to make you want to sleep like Rip Van Winkle for the next twenty years.

I suppose if we set our course by what we see and hear around us, we would be pretty discouraged. Positive signs seem few and far between. But as Christians “we do not lose heart.” Why should we be covered by the events around us? We have been given hope, life, confidence! Our hope is in Christ, who said, “Fear not, I am the first and the last; I am He who lives, and was dead; and behold, I am alive forevermore” (Rev. 1:18).

The times in which we live, as all times, are in God’s hands. As individuals, as church members, and as citizens of this nation, we recognize that God rules our world and that God’s purposes must ultimately prevail. God indeed is sovereign and He has the last word.

So let us lift up our heads and look to those things which are invisible:

- to God’s love which sustains,
- to God’s power that works within,
- to God’s mercy which reconciles and renews.

Trusting in Jesus -- Jim Hicks, Temporary Pastor

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During February, our worship services focus on the theme “Finding comfort in the book of Revelation.”

**Sermons include:** “The Lion and the Lamb,” “The Tower That Toppled,” “When the Horsemen Come Riding,” and “The Gates of Heaven.”



## Church Contacts

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

**Jim Hicks, Temporary Pastor**  
607-898-5201

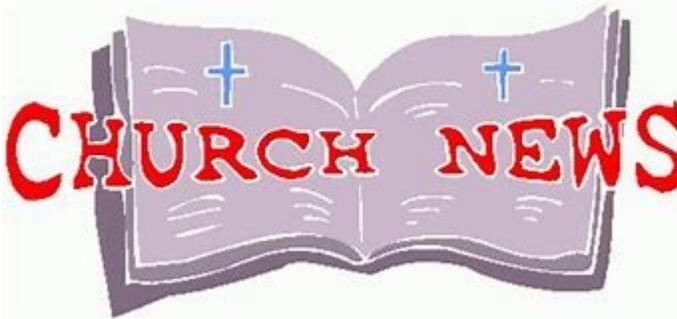
*[hicksjam@verizon.net](mailto:hicksjam@verizon.net)*

**Jim's office hours Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.**

Clerk of Session: John Scott (844-9206)  
The Church Office Administrator is Arlene Krebs;  
she can be reached at 844-8321  
or by email: *[drydenpresoffice@gmail.com](mailto:drydenpresoffice@gmail.com)*

Chair of Deacons: Connie Walker

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



## Newsletter Items

Please have articles for the **March** newsletter in the church office by **February 21st**

Thank you!

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 has been hospitalized.



## *Finance and Facilities*

January through December Operating Results	2020 Actual	2021 Actual	2021 Budget	2022 Budget
Pledge Receipts	\$ 97,017	\$ 94,644	\$ 102,200	\$ 101,050
Non-Pledge & Plate Contributions	8,086	6,921	6,700	8,000
Interest, Dividends & Misc Income	8,701	6,794	7,000	7,000
Expenses	(98,117)	(102,198)	(111,941)	(112,236)
(To) From Reserve Accounts	(3,600)	(3,600)	(3,600)	(3,600)
From Reserve Accounts	-	1,457	-	-
Net Operating Income	<b>\$ 12,087</b>	<b>\$ 4,018</b>	<b>\$ 359</b>	<b>\$ 214</b>

( ) denotes reduction to Income.

The complete 2021 Finance & Facilities Report was included with the documents provided for the Annual Meeting. If you do not have a copy, please contact the church office at (607) 844-8713 or Ernie Walker at (607) 227-4969.

### **Operating Results...**

Contributions were \$3,500 lower in 2021 than in 2020 and \$7,300 below the budget. Non-pledge receipts were a little lower than projected but that was offset by plate that was higher. The amount pledged for 2021 was within \$134 of the amount pledged for 2020 however 2021 pledge receipts dropped by \$2,400. 95% of 2020 pledges were received; 93% of 2021 pledges were received. While contributions and other cash receipts were lower than projected, expenses were also lower and the year ended with \$4,018 in positive Net Income.

In 2021, we received two non-recurring and non-budgeted sources of income. The parcel of property in Florida that was donated by a member of our church (***Thank You Piers***) was sold for a profit of \$8,159 and we received \$1,469 from the sale of a small piece of land to the NYS Department of Transportation for the purpose of constructing crosswalk signals at the intersection of North Street and Main Street. (For those who aren't aware, our church owns the land in front of the Methodist Church as well as ours and it is leased for 100 years to the Village of Dryden for a total of \$1.00.) Session approved adding these proceeds and the \$4,018 of 2021 Net Operating Income to the "Session Discretionary Reserve". The intent of that reserve is to provide a "rainy day" fund for continued operation of the church during financially difficult times.

### **Stewardship...**

Thanks everyone for your pledges for 2022. There were 39 pledges totaling \$102,006 for 2021. We received 36 pledges, totaling \$101,050 for 2022. All 36 pledged for 2021 as well. Two who pledged for 2021 have passed away and one has not returned his pledge card for 2022. Of the 36 pledges, 17 increased their pledge, 5 decreased and 14 stayed the same. With these pledges and the projected non-pledge and plate contributions, there should be enough income to support our temporary pastor this year. When we find our permanent pastor (hopefully in '22), annual expenses will increase by approximately:

Half-time Pastor	\$11,000 to \$17,000
Full-time Pastor	\$46,000 to \$60,000

### **Bequests – Memorials... What is the Difference???**

On the last three pages of the Finance & Facilities Annual Report are listed the balances in the investment & savings accounts. Following the annual meeting, a question was asked what the difference is between "Bequests" and "Memorials" and why some memorials were listed under "Bequests". The amounts listed under "Memorials" are donations from our congregation and other friends in memory of those who have passed away. The amounts listed under "Bequests" are contributions to the church from the estates of those who have passed away. It becomes confusing since several of the Bequests are labeled by the institutions as "... Memorial Fund". We will try to call them "... Fund" for next year's report. Sorry for the confusion.



In an effort to help you stay well, the “*Diakonos*” will provide you with puzzles monthly to flex your brain muscles and have fun. If you don’t know the meaning of “*Diakonos*” ... look it up! First person to call Connie Walker at (607) 844-8713 with the correct definition will get a prize. Thanks for helping the Deacons to meet the needs of our church family with information about those in need and contributions to aid in the cause. Here is the first puzzle...

## Bible Word Search: BOOKS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

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P H I L I P P I A N S C N P Y
P R E V E L A T I O N U Q A G
L H Y B C U Z C V P A F Q A F
R O I H R K O X T D I X L V D
V Y J L W E Q A L S H A X A J
K J X B E G W G L S T S G R C
L O X I H M K S B I N T E D J
J X H B T B O N A A I A N J I
I K Z F T D T N I K R A M G D
U G S N A I S S O L O C K O G
E J P G M K E Z V S C A P B R
W G A O Q H M A H R R F B O S
R E T E P D A P H R D V C F W
B H Q E D U J Y O I R I I S Z
Y N Y R O M G V Z V S D H P H
  
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PHILEMON	JAMES	HEBREWS
ACTS	JUDE	MATTHEW
REVELATION	GALATIANS	COLOSSIANS
ROMANS	LUKE	MARK
EPHESIANS	PHILIPPIANS	TIMOTHY
PETER	CORINTHIANS	

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Christmas 2021



# Quips and Quotes

(submitted by the Temporary Pastor)



A salesman's showing of a house was interrupted by the prospective buyer, who asked, "Is it always so damp in this house?" "Of course, the salesman replied enthusiastically. "Think what an advantage that is in case of fire."

I get enough exercise pushing my luck.

Experience is a wonderful thing; it helps you to recognize a mistake when you make it again.

My bed is a magical place; when I lie in it, I remember everything I was supposed to do.

People say that nothing is impossible, but I do nothing all day!

A bank is a place that will lend you money,  
once you can prove that you don't need it.

## Just a Note

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706) was German, Baroque composer probably best known for his *Canon in D*. If the title doesn't ring a bell the music probably will for it's a regular at weddings. To reacquaint yourself let's visit YouTube.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NlprozGcs80>

I hope you enjoyed the pictures as well as the music.

If you're curious, it's another one of those pieces that has been arranged and rearranged. The list goes from serious to funny:

Here's another version played by classical guitar artist Pe-Olov Kindgren

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jXC9tuumjiA>

And, here's another version by the Trans-Siberian Orchestra

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4cP26ndrmtg>

Variations by George Winston

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hydo5gJP22o>

Piano and Cello

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ptk\\_1Dc2iPY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ptk_1Dc2iPY)

Rockelbels Canon – 4 cellos – The Piano Guys

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LV5\\_xj\\_yuhs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LV5_xj_yuhs)

Choir Sings Pachelbel Canon Medley

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HFrsBMXipDk>



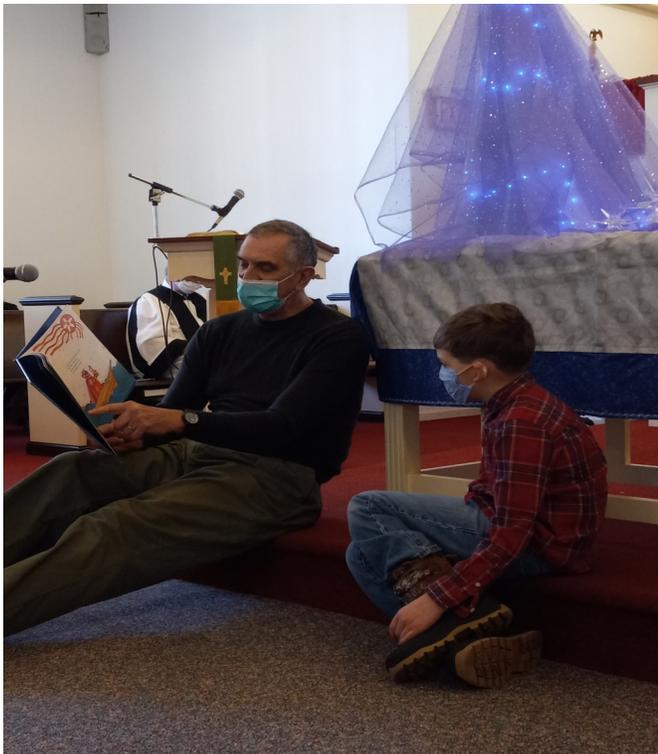
- - - Scott Miller

Christian Education News:

Epiphany was January 6 and we celebrated "kings day" on the 16<sup>th</sup> with a beautiful story called "The Wise Kings" by Steve Kotula. Youth and those attending church received their "star gifts". Those not in attendance received their star gift in the mail. This word is a gift - randomly selected for you. Let it guide you during the coming year.

Photo caption: Nathaniel received his "star gift" as part of the Epiphany celebration.

Steve Kotula reads the story of "The Wise Kings".



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## NOMINATION COMMITTEE

Update from the PNC

We had another disappointment in January when a pastor who we were interested in declined our invitation to come visit us. Pastor Johnson, our liaison pastor, has assured us that we are doing everything right, but finding a new pastor at this point in time is very difficult. A representative from the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry has informed us that other congregations are experiencing these very long search experiences, too. Our requests for new lists from PC USA usually only yield 2 names. Half of the candidates listed are not appropriate for our church. Of the ones that have potential, less than half respond to our inquiries as to whether they would like to be considered by our committee. As you can imagine, this process can be very discouraging. We ask for your ongoing prayers. We have confidence that God will eventually lead us to the minister who is meant for our congregation.

# Dryden Presbyterian Church

## COVID Safety Plan

(11/14/21)

“We had a good friendship and walked together to God’s Temple.”  
Psalm 55:14

We welcome and encourage individuals to come and worship with us in-person.

- The COVID Safety Plan will be approved by Session in order for it to be implemented.
- If anyone does not feel well or has any COVID symptoms, they will worship with us on zoom.
- Attendance is limited to the number of individuals in compliance with current CDC and Tompkins County Health Dept. guidelines; currently 6’ of distance between non-related individuals is recommended.
- Every other pew will remain identified as “not for use”.
- An identified usher will keep attendance for contact tracing purposes if necessary.
- Hand sanitizer stations are available in multiple locations. Use is encouraged upon entering and leaving church.
- Face masks will be worn by everyone when entering and moving about the church; fully vaccinated individuals can remove their mask when seated in the sanctuary and while singing. Unvaccinated individuals will wear a mask at all times. Masks are available in Fellowship Hall. The purpose of wearing a mask is mostly to protect others.
- Members of the choir will distance themselves as much as possible; fully vaccinated choir members are not required to wear masks when singing – this is personal choice. Unvaccinated choir members are required to wear a mask.
- Coffee and fellowship after church will be offered for those individuals who chose to stay.
  - the coffee and snack table will be set up in Fellowship Hall
  - disposable tableware will be used
  - individuals are encouraged to socially distance during this time
  - food will be touchless self-serve
- Ceiling fans should NOT be turned on.
- Communion will continue to be offered in individual, sealed packets.
- Offering can resume by having the usher present the plate to each pew, being the only one to handle the plate. The plate is NOT passed down the pew, individuals will pass their envelope to the person on the aisle side of the pew and place it in the plate. Ushers will be masked while taking the offering. The offering will be presented at the chancel table with prayer.
- Spray bottles are provided in various locations for use on surface areas.
- Masks will be worn by all individuals entering the church administration/office area and while moving about; fully vaccinated individuals may remove their masks when alone in the office or sitting.
- This safety plan will be revised as policies and recommendations from CDC and Tompkins County Health Department change.
- Simply be safe. While God is in control, we all can take steps to be happy and healthy and to keep our fellow church family members safe. Thank you.



**Making our Church  
Safe for All**

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for the surprise monetary gift and recent Christmas cards I received from you over the holidays. It warmed my heart to be remembered by so many friends at our church. I do feel honored and blessed to be your temporary pastor. You're the best!

With love -- Jim Hicks

*May your home and heart  
be filled with the spirit of  
the Holiday season*

*The members of the Dryden  
Quilt group wish to thank you  
for letting us use your  
fellowship hall for our meetings.  
We really appreciate the nice  
facility to work on our quilt  
projects and to enjoy each others  
company. Enclosed is a check.  
Happy Holidays to all of you,  
Thanks again.  
Nancy Bickford and  
all our members.*

**A NOTE OF**



On behalf of Risen Hope Community Church I want to say a big THANK YOU for coming alongside of us and blessing us in such tangible ways this past week.

The nativity scene and costumes that you lent for the Lake Road Caroling Event were a big hit with everyone that drove through! We set up in front of Stan and Diane Pamel's home and Emily from Daisy Hollow Farm brought her animals to complete the "live" nativity scene. Those who were there had a great time hanging out and singing (as best we could!) Christmas Carols. Set-up and take down of the nativity went smooth with help from Brenda who showed us how it all fit together.

From last I've heard the event raised over \$1,100 that went to the "Dryden Hands Fund" which helps Dryden students and families who are in need. Your church was a part of making that happen and we can't thank you enough!

We also wanted to say thank you for the hospitality you showed by making your facility available to us for our Christmas Eve Service. It's a beautiful space and all those who attended were grateful for the opportunity to worship together and prepare our hearts for Christmas.

One thing our church loves about Dryden is the unity that exists between churches and that unity was absolutely put on display in a visible and wonderful way this Christmas season.

Nic for RHCC



Dean Hicks	4
Laura Parker	5
David Parsons	6
Michael Sincerbeaux	13
Penelope Carpenter	14
Anne Perkins	17
Jay Engels	20
Steve Riggs	21

## Scout Sunday

The Boys Scouts of America annually celebrates its founding on February 8, 1910, based on the program started by Lord Baden Powell in England on August 1, 1907. Scout Sunday was added to the Scout celebration in the middle 1940s. Scout Sunday is always the Sunday preceding February 8th, or on the 8th if it falls on Sunday.

The Scout tradition was started to make people in houses of worship aware of Scouting and to allow Scouts to live out their "Duty to God" pledged each week.

The Scout Law says that a "Scout is Reverent" and the Scouts of all ages promise to do their "Duty to God."

Theses values strengthen youth character in their family, community and faith.




**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. The shed is open during the same time as the Kitchen Cupboard.

If you would like to volunteer hanging and folding clothes, please contact Phyllis Byrn.

**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 February we are collecting canned meat with pasta (15oz-16oz.)**

Donations can be left in the administrative wing, in the box marked WEB.



Did we miss your birthday or anniversary? Do you have a special celebration coming up or one that took place recently that can be announced in a future newsletter? Please call (844-8321) or e-mail (drydenpresoffice@gmail.com) the church office, so your church family can share in the celebration.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>February</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>  KC 5-6	<b>3</b>  Choir 7:00	<b>4</b>  Church office closed  KC 11-12	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b>  Worship 10:30 In-person and Zoom 	<b>7</b>  KC 11-12	<b>8</b>  Quilters 10:00  <b>Finance 7:00</b>	<b>9</b>  Bulletin items due  KC 5-6	<b>10</b>    Choir 7:00	<b>11</b>  Church office closed  KC 11-12	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b>  Worship 10:30 In-person and Zoom	<b>14</b>  KC 11-12	<b>15</b>  <b>Session 6:30</b> <b>Deacons 7:00</b>	<b>16</b>  Bulletin items due  KC 5-6	<b>17</b>    Choir 7:00	<b>18</b>  Church office closed  KC 11-12	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b>  Worship 10:30 In-person and Zoom	<b>21</b>  <b>PRESIDENT'S DAY</b>  <b>Newsletter articles due for March</b> KC 11-12	<b>22</b>  Quilters 10:00	<b>23</b>  Bulletin items due  KC 5-6	<b>24</b>    Choir 7:00	<b>25</b>  Church office closed  KC 11-12	<b>26</b>    KC 11-12
<b>27</b>  Worship 10:30 In-person and Zoom	<b>28</b>  KC 11-12					

KC=Kitchen Cupboard