

PRES
NOVEMBER 2019





November 2019



Dear Friends,

ADVENT IS COMING! ARE YOU READY!?!

As I write this, the first day of Advent is 4 weeks away and Christmas itself is less than 8 weeks away. And we all know how quickly those weeks fly by at this time of year! Every year, it is as if the season catches us by surprise when it arrives and it certainly doesn't dilly-dally: it hits the ground running and if (or rather, when!?!) you get behind, it feels nearly impossible to catch up.

But, does our Christmas need to be this way?? Does all of this rushing around and shopping and stressing glorify God? Or does it instead distract us from why we are doing it all in the first place?

There will be a couple of chances this year to begin the season aright, to choose to celebrate Advent in all of its quiet waiting and anticipation. On **Sunday, November 24** following worship, there will be an **Advent 101 workshop** where we will talk about all things Advent and share ideas for making this a meaningful season in our daily lives. Come and share your ideas!

Then following worship on **Sunday, December 1**, which is the First Sunday of Advent, we will have an **Advent Wreathmaking workshop**. We will have materials available and candles and a devotional booklet for your home use. We are looking for decorative greenery and other natural decorations: bittersweet, rosehips, pinecones, or anything else you might have in your yard. Please bring enough to share. There will be a sign up sheet for this workshop so that we have enough materials for everyone. The suggested donation is \$15.



Please come to one or both of these events and resolve now to commit as much energy to the spiritual side of the season as you commit to the material and commercial side in 2019!

In Christ together,

Rev. Lynn Brown



Session Update

1. Trustee Andy Albrecht was present to discuss the next steps in the sale of the cottage and church property. Session voted to authorize funds for the church's share of subdivision and appraisal. A congregational meeting will be called when the contract is finalized.
2. Pastor Lynn will be holding two meetings on November 10 and 17 for prospective members. She is planning two workshops for Advent, Advent 101 on November 24 and Advent wreath making on December 1. On behalf of the CE Committee, she requested that local funds from the Peacemaking Offering be used for the Mental Health First Aid training on November 16; this was approved by Session. Session voted to display the veterans' plaque from the World War II era in the elevator room on second floor with an explanatory sign.
3. The Treasurer's report was received. The year-to-date deficit is \$10,651. We are 75% of the way through 2019; our revenues are at 63% and our expenses are at 67% of the budget.
4. Personnel Committee presented the new contract for Lynn, effective from October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020; the contract was approved by Session. The Committee is finalizing staff position descriptions. Copies of the new Presbytery Family and Medical Leave policy were given out.
5. Communication and Technology Committee reported that a new computer has been selected for the office (for Joyce and Linda). New software and training will be provided.
6. CE Committee reported that Hope Murphy will be in charge of College Care packages to be sent to our college students twice a year before exams. There has been discussion on changes to the side entrance to make that area more informative and inviting.
7. Stewardship Committee reported that Stewardship Sunday will be November 17.

Pastor Lynn's Office Hours for November

Cell phone/text: 518-755-4940 email: lkbrown27@gmail.com

Office hours **by appointment. Please check before coming and not finding me!**

Tuesday 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Wednesday 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.



CHURCH OFFICERS 2019

SESSION		
ELDERS (Ruling Body of the Church)		
Rev. Lynn Brown - Moderator		
CLASS OF 2019	CLASS OF 2020	CLASS OF 2021
Judy Brandow	Chesney Baker	Bill Miller
Edith Keck	Myung Sung	James Sawner
Gary Murphy	Karen Sheer	Helen Traver
Hope Murphy (Youth)		
Clerk – Marilyn Brands		
TRUSTEES		
(Take Care of the Physical Plant)		
Andy Albrecht	Debbie Traver	Caroline Dolfi
Tracy Keck	Karen Haight	Donna Sheak
Philip Keck	Linda Halliday	Denny Smith
DEACONS		
(The Service Body of the Church)		
Barbara Huneke	Amanda Smith	Steve Albrecht Sr
Richard Moysey	Tom Smith	Dawne Fay
Jack Smith	Pat Zerbe	Faith Reynolds

Church Treasurer: Wayne Sauer
Mission Treasurers: David Brands and Wayne Sauer
Bargain Basement: Jean Albrecht, Director 845-635-3563
Friendship Callers: Joan Smith, Chairperson 845-635-3687
 For numbers of Chairpersons not listed, please refer to the church directory or
 call the church office at 845-635-3289.



Beth Murphy, CE Coordinator murphygba@aol.com 845-868-7298(h) 845-242-0325 (C)

**The next meeting of the Christian Education Committee will be held on
 Wednesday, November 6, at 7:00 p.m. in the Parlor.**

Bible Study meets on Sundays at 11:00 a.m. in the Parlor.



Friendship Callers

Friendship Callers will be visiting shut-ins on Tuesday, November 19th. Visitation is on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, we meet in the Yellow Room at 9:30am. If you are interested in joining this group or have any questions, please see Joan Smith or call her at 635-3687.

Harvest Buffet THANK YOU!!!!!!

Our Harvest Buffet was held on Saturday, October 5th. We fed a four-course meal to between 230-235 people. Thanks to all who baked, helped set up, cooked, served, cleaned up, etc. Many hands made this one of our most successful fundraisers for the year. We raised \$2723.50 for our church.

Joyce Brower

Pleasant Valley Ecumenical Food Pantry

We strongly continue to support the food pantry both with our time and food donations. For the month of October the pantry provided food for 90 families (156 adults, 99 children, 23 seniors). Thank you for your continuing support of this.

The following thank you note was received from Ben Sung, this year's recipient of the Irene Bower Scholarship:

Dear members of the Session,

I thank you with all my heart for your continuing support of my theological endeavor. I appreciate your interest and prayers.

In Christ,
Ben Sung

"In everything give thanks." 1 Thessalonians 5:18



Please keep these people in your daily prayers.

Prayers of the People

Prayers of sympathy for the family and friends of Caleb Reickermann on his recent passing.
Prayers for Colleen (friend of Pastor Lynn) who coming home from rehab.
Prayers for Jim Tyger who will be having a repeat MRI in a few weeks.
Prayers for Elaine (Wayne Sauer's sister) whose surgery went well and is at home recuperating.
Prayers for Eileen (friend of the Sauers) who is responding well to a new treatment regimen.
Prayers for Nate, a 14 yr old boy paralyzed as a result of accident, is doing well in rehab.
Prayers for Adam, paralyzed as a result of accident, is beginning to regain some feeling in his legs.
Prayers for Charlotte (a baby born with complications) is doing well.
Prayers for Christina (Donna Mear's hairdresser) whose father has had a stroke.
Prayers for the Cervone family (whose children attend Missy Sauer's school), and whose Mom recently had a stroke.
Prayers for Jesse Zerbe (Pat's brother) who is dealing with new health issues.
Prayers for two infants struggling with multiple sclerosis.
Prayers of sympathy for the family of Margaret Russell on her recent passing.
Prayers of sympathy for the family of Janet Lashway on her recent passing.
Prayers for Brian (Darcy's son's friend) who lost his parents tragically.
Prayers for Gabriel Weed (Ginny Rossway's great grandson) who is having surgery.
Prayers for Bernadette and Bruce Cookinham who are dealing with health issues.
Prayers for Helen (Beth Murphy's aunt) who has a brain bleed after a recent fall.
Prayers for Hillary McAllister (friend of Dawne Fay) who is battling brain cancer.

Living with cancer: Ginny Hankamp (friend of Donna Sheak's), Penny Sawner (James's mother), Chris Woodward (Harriet Mark's brother)

Ongoing health issues: Nick Becker (Karen Haight's grandson), Elsie and Ruthie (Judy Brandow's sisters-in-law), Peggy (Beth Murphy's cousin), Donna Mears, Bill Owen (Alta & Jerry's son-in-law), Jesse Zerbe, James Killmer (Beth Murphy's dad), Carol Belton, Rick Fay, Richard Joseph (Mary Jane Gardner's brother), Edith & Dave (Donna Sheak's parents)

Long Term Residence Lutheran Care

Prayers for Dort Traver (member) who is in the Lutheran Care Center, Rm 111a South.



CHRISTMAS MUSIC

"Away in the Manger" will probably be chosen by one of you as being your FAVORITE CHRISTMAS CAROL. Think about your favorite carol and submit the title: Blue book or Red book, title and page to the office by December 8th! The Conklins will organize them and we will sing as many as possible on "Carol Sunday," December 29th.

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Journeying Together

Sundays November 10 & 17
11am in the Parlor

A two-week exploration of faith for anyone interested in becoming a member of First Presbyterian Church of Pleasant Valley.

What does church membership mean in the 21st century? Join us for coffee and conversation about faith and fellowship in community. We will share some of our own faith stories and discern how God is leading us in our journeys, both individually and together.

New members will be received into membership during worship on Sunday, December 1, the first Sunday of Advent.

Please speak with Pastor Lynn if you are interested or have any questions!

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ADAMS GIFT CARDS

It is always a good time to support our church! It is always a good time to shop at Adams! Do both by participating in the Adams gift card fundraiser. See Helen Traver on Sundays or Joyce or Linda in the church office to purchase a \$25, \$50 or \$100 gift card. Then go shopping or give the card as a gift. It is that simple.

We have been doing this fundraiser for over eight years. Sincere thanks to all who have faithfully participated over the years. Every sale DOES make a difference in the life of our church.

Peace and Global Witness Offering

The Stewardship Committee thanks you all for your generous support to the Peace and Global Witness Offering. This year's donations have totaled \$602.00 to date.



*Please join us on Tuesday, November 26th at 7:00pm,
in our Sanctuary for the Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service.*

There will be a brief meeting of the Presbyterian Women
in the Yellow Room
on Sunday, November 10th after the worship service.

HOLDIAY AUCTION DONATIONS

Last call for Auction Items!

If you are planning to donate a gift certificate, an item for the Live Auction, or talk to a business owner, please have that information handed in to the church office by Sunday, November 10th.

New or gently used items for the Silent Auction should be brought to the church in time for the November 10 deadline. Thank you!!



Holiday Auction News

Date: Saturday, November 23rd

Silent Auction and Live Auction Viewing 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Live Auction starts at 7:00 p.m. with Don Traver as our Auctioneer!

Light refreshments available throughout the evening.

(Any cash donations for food will be given to the Pleasant Valley Food Pantry.)

Listed below are chairpersons. Please contact them if you are able to help.

Live Auction Lisa Wendell 889-8737 and Debbie Traver

Silent Auction Phyllis Menzenski 635-9112

Refreshments Judy Brandow 635-2045, Mary Jane Gardner 605-1365

Advertising Marilyn Brands 223-5717

Call Lisa Wendell with any further questions.

Please attend and bring your friends. Spirited bidding is the best guarantee of the success of this event!

Thank you!

A Partial List of 2019 Holiday Auction Items

Two tickets for County Players

Apple Pie

Gift Basket with items for Kids Age 3+

Platter of Cookies

A load of firewood

Gift Basket with Baking Supplies

“Rhinebeck” Gift Basket

TiaChi/Lang Gong/QiGong Classes

Gift Certificates for:

Albrecht’s Auto Repair

Bei Jing Chef

Publick House

Jazzercise by Wendy

Carl’s Barber Shop

Green Olive Deli

Cotter’s Wine and Liquor Shop

Amore’s Pizzeria

.....and much more!



Wreath making

We will begin on Sunday, November 17th (after the worship service)
Sunday, November 24th (after the worship service)
Saturday, November 30th (9:00am - 12:00pm).

December dates are Sunday, December 1st (after Advent Workshop)
Friday, December 6th - 6:00pm - 9:00pm
Saturday, December 7th - 9:00am - 12:00pm
Friday, December 13th - 6:00pm - 9:00pm
Saturday, December 14th - 9:00am - 12:00pm
Sunday, December 15th (after worship service)

If you can work part of a shift on any of these dates, please feel free to join us for a grand adventure. Bring a friend, new helpers are always welcome. We can instruct you in the fine art of wreath making, clipping greens, bunching greens or decorating. There are jobs for everyone. If you have clippers or pruners, please bring them with you. Gloves are a plus. We have a great deal of fun, fellowship

November

2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 8-1:00 PVN	2
					5:30-8 Tien Tao (FH)	8:30-9:30 Tien Tao 10-1 Barg Bsmt 10am Tai Chi - Chapel
3	4 8-1:00 PVN	5 PVN 8-1:00	6 Closed PVN	7 8-1:00 PVN	8 8-1:00 PVN	9
9:30 am HOLY COMMUNION 10:45 HB Wrap 11am Bible Study - Parlor	6:30 Stamping/Jean 6pm Pound Ex(FH) 7 PM Bell Choir	5:30-8 Tien Tao 7:15 - 9:15pm Girl Scouts (BR) 7:30 pm NA	10-1 Bargain Bsmt 5:30-8 Tien Tao 7pm CE Comm.	6pm Pound Exr (FH) 6:30 Boy Scouts 7 pm Senior Choir	5:30-8 Tien Tao	8:30-9:30 Tien Tao 10am Tai Chi - Chapel 10-1 Barg Bsmt
10	11 Closed PVN	12 8-1:00	13 PVN 8-1:00	14 PVN 8-1:00	15 PVN 8-1:00	16
9:30am WORSHIP 10:45 PW Mtg 11am Journ.Tog. 11am Bible Study	6pm Pound Ex(FH) 7 PM Bell Choir	7 PM Trustees 5:30-8 Tien Tao 7:30 pm N.A.	10-1 Bargain Bsmt 5:30-8 Tien Tao 7:30 Lyme Disease	6pm Pound Exer (FH) 7 pm Senior Choir	5:30-8 Tien Tao 6:30pm Lisa/Stampiing (BR)	8:30-9:30 Tien Tao 10-1 Bargain Bsmt 10am Tai Chi - Chapel
17	18 8-1:00 PVN	19 8-1:00 PVN	20 8-1:00 PVN	21 8-1:00 PVN	22 8-1:00 PVN	23
9:30 am WORSHIP - STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY 11am Journ.Tog. 11am Bible Study - BR Wreathmaking Begins! - after Worship	6pm Pound Ex(FH) 7 PM Bell Choir	9:30 am Friendship Callers 5:30-8 Tien Tao 7:30 pm NA	10-1 Bargain Bsmt 5:30-8 Tien Tao (Chapel) 6:30 Session 7- 8:15pm - Girl Scouts (BR) SET UP....	6pm Pound Exer (Chapel) 7 pm Senior Choir FOR.....	5:30-8 Tien Tao (Chapel) AUCTION	8:30-9:30 Tien Tao(Chapel) 10am Tai Chi - Chapel HOLIDAY AUCTION
24	25 8-1:00 PVN	26 8-1:00 PVN	27 Closed PVN	28 Closed PVN	29 Closed PVN	30
9:30 am WORSHIP 11am Advent 101 (BR) 11am Bible Study - Parlor Wreathmaking - After Worship	6pm Pound Ex(FH) 7 PM Bell Choir	7:00pm Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service 5:30-8 Tien Tao 7:30 pm NA	5:30-8 Tien Tao	 HAPPY THANKSGIVING	OFFICE CLOSED	8:30-9:30 Tien Tao (Chapel) 10-1 Bargain Bsmt 10am Tai Chi - Chapel 9am-12pm Wreathmaking Hanging of the Greens