

DECEMBER 2022

Hamburg Presbyterian Church

# The TOWEL AND BASIN

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Mission: To be a spiritually passionate congregation that lives out Christ's teachings; through love-filled relationship building, we prayerfully seek to share our lives and resources with the community and the world



# Harvest Dinner 2022



# SNOW-ember





# From the Presbytery of Western New York



## Celebration of African American Music

### From Gospel to Jazz to Rock For Black History Month

Please join in sharing your talents for a Celebration of African American Music. Do you sing, play an instrument, or merely wish to enjoy this special concert?

It will be held at **Orchard Park Presbyterian Church**, 4369 S. Buffalo Street, tentatively set for the **last Sunday in February, the 26th at 4pm**. Please email Rev. Dr. Wylie Hughes at [wylie@oppchurch.org](mailto:wylie@oppchurch.org) or call the church office at 716-662-9348 if you would like to participate. Music will be distributed between now and February and rehearsal times for choirs and bands will be set at a later date.

### What's Coming for FPC

This Advent Calendar is designed to connect your giving to the hope, peace, joy, and love of this church. What you pledge today, effects what we plan and do in 2023. In other words, with God's help, you are a part of what's coming. As you go through the scripture, prompts, and thoughts of this calendar, notice what moves you, ponder where you can step up next year, and find energy in the way you give of your finances, time, and talents.



### Week One hope

Nov 27

Isaiah 7:14 Light a candle in your home. Where did you see signs of Jesus today? Say it aloud. Spend time in prayer for your pledge.

Nov 30

Name 3 things that make our church special. How does this affect your life? How can you contribute to these in 2023?

Dec 3

Schedule coffee with a friend. Time together is meaningful. Your pledge helps support coffee meetups with visitors, long-time members, and faith-seekers.

Dec 6

What object in your home gives you peace? How can you share that peace with others? What object in the church brings you peace? How can we share it with others?

Nov 28

What is your favorite hymn or song (secular too!) about hope. Email Holly the song. Play it really loudly!

Dec 1

It's December! Think back on the year. List 11 amazing moments from Jan. - now. Woah. Jan. was a while ago!

### Week Two peace

Dec 4

Light a candle today. Where does peace seem the most palpable? Spend time in prayer for your pledge today.

Dec 7

Name something beautiful you saw or experienced this week. Mark it in your own way.

Nov 29

When is your favorite part of the day--dusk, dawn, etc.? Take notice. Make some sort of reminder to give thanks for that time.

Dec 2

Look outside your windows. What nature speaks to you: how and why? Linger there. Share a pic if you like.

Dec 5

Peace can be a bag of groceries, a blanket, a place to rest and pray. Your donation ignites the peace candle all year long for FPC.

Dec 8

Sit down. Read poetry for 5 minutes. Set a timer. No lists, no stress. Just you and words. Need a poet? Google Mary Oliver.

Dec 9

Listen to Silent Night or even Lennon's Imagine. Soak it in.

### Week Three joy

Dec 11

Psalm 47 Light a candle. What church joy do you wish you could share with all? What prohibits or helps FPC use joy? Spend time in prayer for your pledge today.

Dec 14

Make a playlist of songs that make you happy anytime you hear them. Share it!

Dec 17

What's your favorite thing about you? Come on, you know you have beautiful eyes, a great nose, & the best rhythm of anyone around! What JOY you are. What JOY you bring!

Dec 20

Star gaze tonight. Contemplate the kind of love God has for this creation.

Dec 23

What do you love about FPC? What would you love to see us try next year? Write it on your pledge.

Dec 10

Go above and beyond in public today. Push in a cart, make eye contact, say howdy, sing in public (maybe), buy the next person's coffee...

Dec 12

Take a picture of your pet or favorite place in nature. Post it and give thanks to God for joy!

Dec 15

List 5 people (you know or don't) outside of your family that give you joy. Say thanks.

### Week Four love

Dec 18

John 4:18 Light a candle. Breathe. Meditate on love. Have no fear.

Dec 21

Learn your love languages (romantic, familial, work, & friendships.) [www.5lovelanguages.com](http://www.5lovelanguages.com)

Dec 24

Write 3 sentences that start with "I believe love will..."

hope peace  
joy love

Dec 13

Eat something wonderful, slowly today. Wait. Even slower. Peel an orange, notice the smell, look at the grooves. Give thanks for every chocolate chip.

Dec 16

Read your favorite scripture or biblical story or find a video of it. Share your scripture to our Facebook page.

Dec 19

Self-care check-in! To love others, you gotta make sure you love you! use a bath bomb, buy flowers. Make a plan to self-care each month.

Dec 22

Subtract 1 thing from your to do list today. Use the extra time to pray for those who are lonely. We build relationships through prayer.

Dec 25

For unto us a gift is given. Turn in your pledge and know that it and you are cherished. Merry Christmas!

hope peace joy love hope peace joy love



PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN

# PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

## **The 2022-2023 Horizon's Bible Study is "Celebrating SABBATH"- Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight By Carol M. Bechtel**

Key ideas: As Lord of the Sabbath, Jesus invites all of us who are weary to celebrate a Sabbath that is more about "yes" than "no." Sabbath celebration is something that God has built into the structure of creation. Receiving that gift is part of what deepens our friendship with God, others and the rest of creation and it also involves a commitment to hospitality. Sabbath is first about honoring God.

Community is key for sustaining us in our Sabbath journey.

**We would like extend a warm welcome to every woman to join our monthly Circle meetings for Bible Study and Fellowship.**

### **CIRCLE MEETINGS:**

**Hannah Circle Wed. December 7th at 10:00am**

Gail Wheaton's home

**Elizabeth Circle Thurs. December 8th at 10:30am**

Janie Smith's Home

**Ruth Circle Wed., December 14th at 12:30pm**

HPC Lounge

**PW Coordinating Team**

will meet Tuesday,

**December 6th**

in the Amy Low Room

**Mission Quilters will meet December 7th at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall**



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER

### Ushers

Dec. 11 - Sue Almond

Dec. 18 - Connie Kavanaugh

Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve Services

4PM Jean Coffey 9PM Joyce Huen

Dec. 25 - Jean Coffey

### Liturgists

Dec. 11- Katy Webster

Dec. 18 - Kris McGuire

Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve Services

4PM - Hollis Bahruth 9PM - Wayne Hines

Dec. 25 - Jim Sampson

The MITTEN TREE is in the Narthex to receive your gifts of mittens/gloves, hats, and scarves.

Your donations, to benefit the Salvation Army, will be accepted until Sunday, December 18th.

**Christmas Flowers.** Deacons will be placing poinsettias on the altar for the Christmas Eve services. Families that are planning on taking their flowers home should do so at the end of the Christmas Eve service they attend and those that have been donated will be delivered to our shut-in HPC members.

## The Quilters of HPC Need Your Help!!

ALL WOMEN (AND MEN) ARE WELCOMED TO JOIN THIS FANTASTIC GROUP

MEETINGS: THE FIRST AND THIRD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH  
NO MEETINGS HELD JUNE, JULY OR AUGUST

TIME: 9:30 A.M. UNTIL 12:00 NOON  
BRING A SANDWICH AND STAY FOR LUNCH

### COTTON FABRIC NEEDED TO MAKE THE LAP ROBES/BABY QUILTS

COTTON FABRIC IS CUT INTO 5X5 SQUARES  
LARGER PIECES ARE USED FOR THE BACKING OF QUILTS

Come to a meeting to find out what we do and how we do it. It is a mission HPC started years ago, and we are not ready to give it up - **BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP.**

*Please join us for our first meeting of the year - Wednesday, January 4, 2023*



# DECEMBER

December 1 Joan Calkins

Terri Vogler

December 31 Kevin Mills

December 3 Melissa Ferraro,  
Tyler Herman, Nathan Low, Skip  
Petrilla

December 14 Guy Hummel

December 16 Erin Calder

December 5 Jeffrey Fisk

December 18 Lou Almond

December 20 Natalie Metzger

December 6 Linda McAlpine

December 21 Jean Coffey

December 7 Ryan Metzger

December 25 Nicholas Petrilla

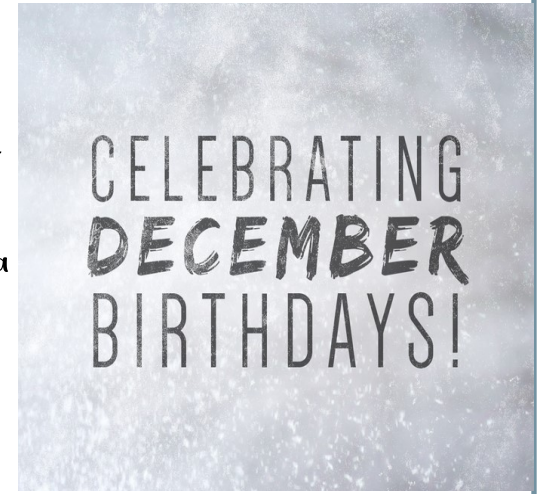
December 9 Donna Burns, Ian  
Calder,

December 27 Rachel Brown

December 28 Seth Robert

December 12 Hollis Bahruth,

Grabar, Trish Harrigan

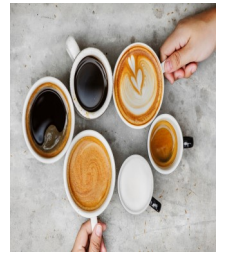


## Sandwich Sunday 12/18

Please bring individually wrapped sandwiches to church Sunday morning and put them in the coolers in the coat room. Or, bring them to the Hollenbeck's front porch at 480 Pleasant Ave anytime Saturday or Sunday morning until noon. They will be delivered to St. Luke's Mission of Mercy in Buffalo.

**Non-perishable food items are needed for the Blessing Box located on Main St. lawn. Canned soups/stews/pasta, peanut butter and packaged dry goods are great items to share. Please note, no expired/close to expiration date items can be accepted.**

**December Coffee Hour!**  
Meet in the lounge after service for a time of fellowship!  
**4 Deacons & Caregivers and Hospitality & Nominating**  
**11 Presbyterian Women (all circles)**  
**18 Hospitality**  
**25 Church Life**



## Christmas Eve Services

Sat. Dec. 24th - 4pm

Sat. Dec. 24th - 9pm

## Christmas Day Service

Sun. Dec. 25th - 10am



## IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

Tom Tabone,  
George Ackerman,  
Bill McCoy,  
Jonah DeLang,  
Donna Burns,  
Gail Wheaton,  
Richard Monckton,  
Bob Catalino,  
Hollis Bahruth,



# HAMBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

177 Main St.  
Hamburg, NY 14075

**Pastor** - Rev. Rachel Brown  
**Christian Education Director** -  
**Minister of Music**- Alexander Hamilton  
**Pastoral Care Assistant** - Wendy Zimmerman  
**Treasurer** - Blair Webster  
**Financial Secretary** - Katie Gertner  
**Church Office** - Kendra Quinn-Moultrie  
**Sexton** - Dave Monaco  
**Office Phone** - (716) 649-1970

E-mail - [hamburgpres@gmail.com](mailto:hamburgpres@gmail.com)

Web Page - [www.hamburgchurch.org](http://www.hamburgchurch.org)

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/hamburgpresbychurch/>

YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCtZVuwF9DN62b-WK-iXq5Ug>



## Sunday Worship &

10:00am Worship Service  
in the Sanctuary and on Facebook

### Worship Online with us!

Visit [www.hamburgchurch.org](http://www.hamburgchurch.org) and  
click on the Media tab to the drop  
down Bulletin tab. Select the bulletin  
of the week and access [Facebook Live](#)

## Newsletter

### Deadline

The deadline for the

**January Issue** is

**January 21, 2022**



## HPC OFFICE

### Staff Listing

#### *Pastor*

Rev. Rachel Brown: 444-7333

#### *Minister of Music*

Alex Hamilton

#### *Financial Secretary*

Katie Gertner: 400-4892

#### *Church Office*

Kendra Quinn-Moultrie: 649-1970

#### *Sexton*

Dave Monaco: 931-5213

## The Blessing Tree.

Mittens, gloves, hats & scarves located in front of the church, all items on the tree are free to all people. Take what you need and leave what you can, be a blessing to all. Thank you!



## HPC OFFICE HOURS

(716-649-1970)

Monday 9am - 2pm

Tuesday 9am - 2pm

Wednesday 9am - 2pm

Thursday 9am-2pm

### Friday Closed

In case of an emergency,  
Rev. Rachel Brown may be  
reached on her cell at 444-7333.

Please let Pastor Rachel know of your prayer needs by contacting her directly at (716) 444-7333.

All prayer requests are confidential and may be made through church email or by phone as well.

NEED PRAYER?



## MINUTES OF SESSION NOVEMBER 14TH 2022

The Rev. Rachel Brown, Moderator, called the Session meeting to order at 7:01pm. Motion to approve agenda was approved

Elders in attendance were: Wayne Hines, Jerry Stitt, James Sampson, Blair Webster, Chris Burns, Jeff Leyonmark, Kris McGuire, Trish Harrigan. Also in attendance were Pastor Rachel and Tony Cimorelli Clerk of Session.

Excused was Hollis Bahruth, Tom Tabone.

Deacon in attendance was Wendy Leyonmark.

The Devotion was provided by Jim Sampson.

Meeting Minutes from October 10, 2022 were approved.

### **PASTOR'S REPORT:**

Pastor Rachel reminded us she be out of town on Sunday November 20. Heather Ferro will be the Pulpit Supply. The Hanging of the Greens will be done on November 27th . Pastor Rachel is also planning a vacation the last two weeks of May 2023. Will need pulpit supply.

A MOTION to approve and schedule the following baptisms was approved.

Ben Schmittendorf on November 27, 2022

Olive Vincent on December 11, 2022 (rescheduled from last month)

### **CLERK'S REPORT:**

Tony Cimorelli reported that Presbyterian Women have asked to be informed in advance of any baptisms so they can provide quilts. This will be done. The church was informed that Lorraine Wilson passed away on September 15, 2022.

### **DEACON'S REPORT:**

Wendy Leyonmark reported that the Deacons are continuing with cards and visitations. Poinsettia sales are now happening for Christmas as well.

### **COMM. TO PRESBYTERY:**

Jim Sampson reported that it was a brief meeting. Primary focus was increasing minimums for pastors salary presbytery wide. Also, John Hong, a consultant for the Northeast Synod is a resource available to Churches to do strategic planning. We could invite him to come and speak to us. Pastor Rachel will reach out to him and get details.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Blair reviewed the Treasurer's Report and these following reports that were provided prior to the meeting treasurers report

- 2022 End of Oct./YTD Financial Summary
- 2022 Bank Account Balances as of 10/31/22
- 2023 Budget Draft

### **MINISTRY TEAMS REQUIRING ACTION (motion request noted with \*\*)**

Personnel Jim \*\*

**MOTION:** Personnel moves that a congregational meeting be scheduled for Sunday, December 4th, 2022, immediately following the service for the purpose of approving the pastor's terms of call. **Motion Approved.**

**MOTION:** Personnel Moves that \$312.50 be allocated to

pay Thomas Daley, CPA, for the preparation of the Employee Retention Credit. That amount will be deducted upon receipt of the ERC. **Motion Approved.**

Finance/Stewardship Jerry\*\*

**MOTION:** Extend our contract with Gremlin Control for IT support through the end of 2022 at \$500/month. **Motion Approved.**

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Reminder that Session Approved the following Motion via email vote:

**MOTION:** Building and Grounds moves to spend \$3,665 to purchase a replacement make up water pump.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

No new business was discussed.

### **OPEN DISCUSSION was held.**

The devotion for the Session Meeting in December will be provided by Chris Burns.

The 4 th Sunday Ministry Team Assignment on November 27, 2022 will be provided by the Christian Education

The Sacrament of Holy Communion was celebrated on November 6th at Christmas in the Country and the 10:00 a.m. Worship service.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated on December 4, 2022 at the 10:00am Worship Service, and both Christmas Eve Services at 4:00pm and 9:00pm.

Next meeting date December 12, 2022 at 5:30pm at the Villa at Briarwood.

Pastor Rachel closed the meeting at 8:08 p.m. with prayer.

Respectfully submitted:



Clerk of Session



# December 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 9:00am United Church of God (FH)
4 10:00am Worship Service & Communion	5 6:30pm Christian Ed. (AL) 7:30pm AlAnon	6 11:00am Worship Planning  12:30pm Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team (ALR)	7 10:00am Hannah Circle (Gail Wheaton's home) 7:00pm Mission (L) 7:30pm AA (FH)	8 10:30am Elizabeth Circle (Janie Smith's home) 7pm YogaFaith (FH)	9 10:00pm AA (FH)	10 9:00am United Church of God (FH)
11 10:00am Worship Service &	12 9:30am Caregivers 5:30pm Session (Villa at Briarwood) 7:30pm AlAnon	13 11:00am Worship Planning & Staff 5:30pm Bell Choir 6:30pm Chancel Choir	14 12:30pm Ruth Circle (HPC Lounge) 7:30pm AA (FH)	15 7pm YogaFaith (FH)	16 10:00pm AA (FH)	17 9:00am United Church of God (FH)
18 10:00am Worship Service & Sandwich Sunday	19 12:30pm Presbyterian Women (FH) 7:00pm Worship and Music (Z) 7:30pm AlAnon (FH)	20 11:00am Worship Planning	21 7:30pm AA (FH)	22 7pm YogaFaith (FH)	23 10:00pm AA (FH)	24 9:00am United Church of God (FH) 4:00pm & 9:00pm Christmas Eve Services
25 Merry Christmas 10:00am Worship Service	26 ~office closed~	27	28 7:30pm AA (FH)	29 7pm YogaFaith (FH)	30 10:00pm AA (FH)	31