

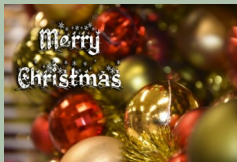
DECEMBER 2021  
Hamburg Presbyterian Church

# The TOWEL AND BASIN

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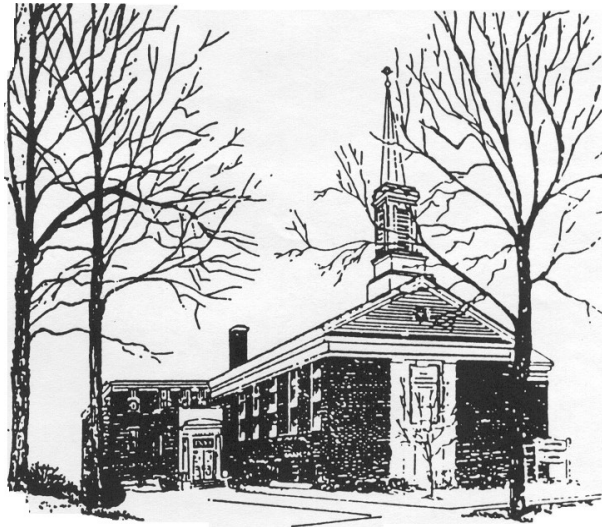


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Mission: To be a spiritually passionate congregation that lives out Christ's teachings;  
through love-filled relationship building, we prayerfully seek to share our lives and resources with the community and the world





# HAMBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

177 Main St.  
Hamburg, NY 14075

**Pastor** - Rev. Rachel Brown  
**Christian Education Director** - Matt Brooks  
**Pastoral Care Assistant** - Wendy Zimmerman

**Treasurer** - Blair Webster  
**Financial Secretary** - Katie Gertner  
**Church Office** - Kendra Quinn-Moultrie & Mary Prentice  
**Sexton** - Dave Monaco  
**Office Phone** - (716) 649-1970

E-mail - [hamburgpresbyterianchurch@verizon.net](mailto:hamburgpresbyterianchurch@verizon.net)

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

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

Online Sermons - <https://clyp.it/u/rachelbrown333>

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



## Sunday Worship & Christian Ed Schedule

10:00am Worship Service  
in the Sanctuary and on Facebook  
10:15am Children's Church  
(after Children's Sermon)

### 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

**December 17, 2021**



## HPC OFFICE

### Staff Listing

#### *Pastor*

Rev. Rachel Brown

#### *Minister of Music*

Alex Hamilton

#### *Director of Christian Ed*

Matt Brooks: 585-469-4882

#### *Financial Secretary*

Katie Gertner: 400-4892

#### *Personal Assistant to the Pastor*

Kendra Quinn-Moultrie

#### *Church Office*

Mary Prentice: 649-1970

#### *Sexton*

Dave Monaco: 931-5213



## 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.





## *From Pastor Rachel's heart ...*

*Merry Christmas! Jesus is Our Hope.*

*"May your unfailing love rest upon us, O LORD, even as we put our hope in you." ~ Psalm 33: 22 (NIV)*

*"Because of our faith, Christ has brought us into this place of undeserved privilege where we now stand, and we confidently and joyfully look forward to sharing God's glory. We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance." ~Romans 5: 2 - 3 (NLT)*

*The Lord Jesus Christ is waiting for you to rest. This Christmas season, one of the busiest times of year, take time to rest in the Lord's arms finding peace and comfort knowing that he is carrying through every struggle, burden, and hectic day. What is weighing you down right now as you read this article? Take a moment to stop all that you are doing, take a deep breath, close your eyes and start a conversation with God. Share your cares, worries, dreams, needs and then simply be silent and allow the Lord to speak to you. Perhaps you will hear nothing and know that in that moment the Lord is simply holding you in His arms, filling you with HOPE. Allow the hope of the Lord to bring you strength, courage, renewed faith and joy for the day and the entire Christmas season. Be blessed this Christmas knowing that you are loved and there is HOPE no matter what the day brings.*

*God is with you, always.*

*Book Recommendation: "We have lasting hope through the salvation we have in Christ ... Hope means that even when it looks like it's all over, it's not all over yet. That's why the Bible says we can rejoice even in our tribulations. God is working in our hard times to produce proven character and hope in us." ~Dr. Tony Evans, Totally Saved*

*~Pastor Rachel*

*thank you*

Thank you from Pastor Rachel

Dear HPC family and friends,

Thank you so very much for your generous pledges, gifts, donations, volunteering and fundraising efforts in 2021. Thanks to you, we were able to donate to the following, fulfilling our commitments and then some during a pandemic! Your generosity reminds us that the more you pledge, tithe, donate and volunteer to the church during the year, the more we are able to help those in need. Please return your pledge card or contact the church with your pledge for 2021 ASAP as we are crafting the budget for 2022 now and would like to give as much as possible to those we support.

Thank you again, ~Pastor Rachel

### Hamburg Presbyterian Church Mission

#### Giving donations from tithes, offerings, and fundraising 2021:

Angel Tree \$1, 000

Bethel Presbyterian Church Soup Kitchen \$1,000

Buffalo Dream Center \$750

Churches in Action (CIA) \$1,000

Feed More Foundation \$500

Functional Literacy Ministry in Haiti \$2,500

Friends of Night People \$1,000

Grocery Gift Cards \$1,000

Jericho Road \$2, 000

Journey's End \$500

Operation Good Neighbor \$500

PC (USA) Disaster Relief \$500

PC (USA) World Mission \$500

Peek Performance \$500

Resurrection Life Church \$500

Storehouse Mission \$500

St. Luke's Mission of Mercy \$2,000

Sparks of Hope Recovery Support Center in  
Hamburg \$ 1,000

#### Pumpkin Patch Fundraiser and Chicken BBQ 2021:

Operation Good Neighbor \$2,000 Blasdell Church  
of Christ Food Pantry \$2,000

Eden/ North Collins Food Pantry \$2,000

S.S. Peter and Paul Food Pantry \$2,000

## The Presbytery of Western New York: Seeking to be an Anti-Racist: Living the Love of Jesus Advent, Christmas and....Anti-racism?

The holidays will soon be upon us. For many of us, there is pleasure in the escape from the usual routine, despite the stress of the preparations and the many gatherings.

Tradition tells us that we should expect to discover peace and joy in this season as we move through our activities. And yet, when the season is done, how often do we feel truly transformed? As the secular traditions (which of course can be fun) take over our activities, it can seem harder and harder to find the deeper meaning of the season and its transforming power. So, what to do? It would seem reasonable that if we are seeking renewal and meaning, the solution would be to pull away from our daily challenges, at least for a time, such as anti-racism work? If what we seek is truly physical refreshment, we may need to pull back. If, however, we are seeking renewal and refreshment of our spirits, then seeking deeper meaning in our celebrations will only help. It is so easy to let the season get away from us, following only the old traditions. But then, when we arrive at the end of the time, we may end up feeling just the same as at the beginning of the season, or maybe even a little depressed, drained or even frustrated.

So, what if you could find new and more profound meaning in the holidays and our celebrations? Could we go beyond a warm glow on Christmas Eve to the transformative message that is the birth of a savior for the world, the whole world?

With this in mind, a “Holy-day Guide” has been produced. Its purpose is to use Advent to help us prepare for the transformative message of the holy-days of Christmas in new ways, through different eyes. The purpose is not to burden ourselves with new obligations, but to deepen our understanding of what we do, and explore new perspectives. The intent is to deepen the joy of the season. This is not a revolutionary guide, simply a place to begin.

In this guide, there are ideas about gift-giving, ideas of places to shop, decoration, devotions and Advent Wreath readings. It can be challenging to think of changing how one celebrates the holidays. But the issues at hand are important. These suggestions do not mean denying the joys and traditions of the holidays but deepening their meaning. We hope you will find something of value. Click or copy and paste the link below to download the guide.

Holy-day Guide: [https://mcusercontent.com/ed7ba22984f67a2371fb6e031/files/82fd3caf-a774-e17b-8306-2dfb99bba254/Holy\\_Day\\_Guide\\_for\\_Advent\\_and\\_Christmas.pdf](https://mcusercontent.com/ed7ba22984f67a2371fb6e031/files/82fd3caf-a774-e17b-8306-2dfb99bba254/Holy_Day_Guide_for_Advent_and_Christmas.pdf)

# Christian Education

## Children's Church

All children are welcome to join us during worship (10:15) for Children's Church. Please see the schedule below for dates. If you are not able to join us in person you can check out the Worship Service, as well as the Children's Sermon, each week on Facebook Live and the Hamburg Presbyterian YouTube Channel.

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



## Upcoming

### Teen Angel Tree Shopping Trip (December 10th)

The youth will be meeting on Friday 12/10 to do some Angel Tree Shopping.

### Children's Christmas Play (December 19<sup>th</sup> during worship)

We will continue rehearsing for our annual Christmas Play during Children's Church. The play will take place on Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup> during worship. If you're interested in getting involved see Matt for details.

### Confirmation Class (January 2022)

Hamburg Presbyterian will be offering a Confirmation Class for all students Grades 6-12 starting January 9<sup>th</sup>. The class will meet twice a month on Sundays after worship from 11:00-12:30. If your teen is interested in attending, please see Matt for more details.

Blessings!

Matt Brooks

Christian Education

## Adult Education

(Wednesday Nights, 7:00pm-8:00pm)

Adult Study Group meets on Wednesdays on **Zoom**. We have been exploring how to read

## December Children's Ministry Schedule

12/05 Children's Church-Christmas Play Rehearsal (10:15am)

12/12 Children's Church-Christmas Play Rehearsal (10:15 am)

12/19 Children's Christmas Play-During Worship (10:15 am)

12/26 No Children's Church-Christmas Recess (10:15 am)

## Online Worship Links for HPC

HPC website: [www.hamburgchurch.org](http://www.hamburgchurch.org)

~Pastor Rachel's audio sermons:

<https://clyp.it/u/rachelbrown333>

~HPC Facebook Page:

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

~HPC YouTube channel:

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



# CONNECT - GROW - SERVE

**Tuesdays**

**Bell Choir 5:30pm**

**Choir 6:30pm**



**Al Anon**

**Mondays - Zoom 7:30pm**

**Wednesdays- FH 7:30pm**

**Fridays- FH 10:00pm**

**Welcome to the 2021/2022 PW/Horizon Bible Study,**



**PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN**

**What My Grandmother Taught Me: Learning from the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus by Merryl Blair**

Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba, and Mary- Matthew names these women for a reason. How might Jesus have heard the stories of his grandmothers? What might the young Jesus have felt as he heard about his family? What might the stories of these women have added to his sense of identity, as part of a particular family in a particular time and about his family place?

Have you thought about Jesus' grandmothers? What can these grandmothers-of-the-faith teach us? Their stories will lead us into the gospel, the good news about Jesus Christ. By exploring these stories together, we will have a richer idea of what the good news is.

The cost of the 2021/2022 Horizons Bible Study is \$10.00

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

## **CIRCLE MEETINGS:**

**Hannah Circle                      Wed. Dec. 8th      10:00 a.m.**

Leader: Marci Toney , Gail Wheaton's home.

**Elizabeth Circle      Thurs. Dec. 9th 10:30 a.m.**

Leader: Janie S. Janie Smith's Home

**Ruth Circle                      Wed. Dec. 15th      12:30pm**

Leader: Ginny Sprague, Amy Low Room

**QUILTERS WILL MEET WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 1ST AND 15TH**

**9:30 a.m. ~ Fellowship Hall**



Joan Calkins	Dec. 1st	Jason Gimlin	Dec. 18th
Elva Cohoon	Dec. 1st	Karl Bahruth	Dec. 19th
Melissa Ferraro	Dec. 3rd	Lora Kent	Dec. 19th
Tyler Herman	Dec. 3rd	Sarah Martin	Dec. 19th
Nathan Low	Dec. 3rd	Natalie Metzger	Dec. 20th
Skip Petrilla	Dec. 3rd	Jean Coffey	Dec. 21st
Jeffery Fisk	Dec. 5th	Cian O'Leary	Dec. 23rd
Linda McAlpine	Dec. 6th	Nancy Crossan	Dec. 24th
Ryan Metzger	Dec. 7th	Nicholas Petrilla	Dec. 25th
Donna Burns	Dec. 9th	Rachel Brown	Dec. 27th
Ian Calder	Dec. 9th	Heidi Beers	Dec. 28th
Ken Martin	Dec. 9th	Seth Robert Grabar	Dec. 28th
Holly Bahruth	Dec. 12th	Tricia Harrigan	Dec. 28th
Terri Volger	Dec. 12th	George Davis II	Dec. 29th
Guy Hummel	Dec. 14th	Malloray Gang	Dec. 30th
Bernice Olin	Dec. 14th	Kevin Mills	Dec. 31st
Erin Calder	Dec. 16th		
Lou Almond	Dec. 18th		

### Christmas Eve Service 12/24/21

4pm , 9pm Candlelight and Communion

### First Sunday after Christmas 12/26/21

10am with Opera singer Aida Carducci



**Friends of the Night People.** We are going to collect winter coats for Friends of the Night People in November and December. If you would like to donate, please leave your gently used items in the coat room. FONP is especially in need of men's coats!



**The Mitten Tree** is in the lobby awaiting your gifts of mittens, hats, and scarves. Donations to benefit the Salvation Army will be accepted until **December 19th**



**Poinsettias:** Due to Covid circumstances, Deacons will not take orders or donations for poinsettias this Christmas season. In lieu of our usual plan, Deacons have purchased 20 poinsettias and will decorate the sanctuary with them. Following the Sunday, December 26th service, Deacons will deliver poinsettias to our home bound members.



**Comfort at Christmas: On December 11th @ 3:30 P.M.,** St. David's Episcopal Church in West Seneca will be hosting an ecumenical Blue Christmas service for remembrance of lost loved ones around the holidays. All are welcome.



**Transportation Request:** Hal Lewis needs a ride to church. Can you help? Sign up in the lobby.



### Yuletide in the Country at the Hamburg fairgrounds is right around the corner on December 4 & 5.

There is a sign up sheet in the narthex, call me (992-3479), text (868-6153) or email ([dtchmn@verizon.net](mailto:dtchmn@verizon.net)). So far, Saturday morning is fully staffed but there are places open the rest of the weekend. Thank you so much for making this happen! ~Janie Smith



**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. Thank you!**



### THANK YOU HPC!!

It has been so great getting to know so many of you. Everyone has been so kind, helpful, and welcoming.

I really appreciate how great you all are and I am grateful to be a part of HPC!

Thanks, Mary







It's that time again! The Angel Tree is an opportunity for you to shop for a needy child or family, from our local community, this Christmas. The "Angel Tree," with the children, their needs and more instructions will be set up in the Narthex and online through sign up genius. **Gifts will be due December 12<sup>th</sup>**. The children will be listed as a family this year. Please consider going in with your family, friend(s) or as a mission team or small group to select a family from the tree to shop for this holiday season. Additional donations from the congregation will be used for wrapping supplies, any additional families/children remaining and for anyone that needs additional help providing gifts.

Thank you for your generosity!!

Angel Tree 2021 is going virtual! Please see the following website to pick a family /children from the online sign up and further instructions!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040F44AAA628A5F58-hpcangell>

(consider going in with friends/neighbors/co-workers to buy gifts).

All children come from needy families locally in our community.

Please keep in mind each family is only on the tree once, therefore you may be the only person/group buying gifts for this family

The parents of each child/family have filled out a form (which we will email you once you sign up)

with the child/family's needs/wants/interests/sizes to help you provide wonderful gifts for them.

We are asking that all gifts be returned UNWRAPPED this year – for convenience and organizational purposes. o Bring the gifts, unwrapped in a shopping/garbage bag with the family/child's information attached.

o Wrapping paper/supplies may be dropped off as well.

Please drop off all gifts (with the child's information attached) to the church office by December 12<sup>th</sup>. The Mission Ministry team will then organize, do any necessary additional shopping and have them ready to deliver them to the families before Christmas vacation.

Please contact us with any additional questions:

o Amanda Cimorelli 716-200-3321 o Julie Cimorelli 716-432-5067

Donations from the congregation will be used for wrapping supplies, any additional families/children remaining and for anyone that needs additional help providing gifts.

# December 2021

## Hamburg Presbyterian Church



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> <b>9:30am</b> Quilters (FH) <b>7:30pm</b> AA (FH)	<b>2</b> <b>1pm</b> Women's Bible Study	<b>3</b> <b>10:00pm</b> AA (FH)	<b>4</b> <b>9:00am</b> United Church of God (FH)  Yuletide in the Country
<b>5 2nd Sunday of Advent</b> <b>10:00am</b> Worship Service & Communion  Yuletide in the Country	<b>6</b> <b>6:00pm</b> Christian Ed. (Z) <b>7:00pm</b> Financial Mgmt. (Z) <b>7:00pm</b> Personnel (Z)	<b>7</b> <b>11:30am</b> Presbyterian Women <b>11:00am</b> Worship Planning	<b>8</b> <b>10:00am</b> Hannah Circle <b>7:30pm</b> AA (FH)	<b>9</b> <b>10:30am</b> Elizabeth Circle	<b>10</b> <b>10:00pm</b> AA (FH)  Teen Angel Tree Shopping	<b>11</b> <b>9:00am</b> United Church of God (FH)
<b>12 3rd Sunday of Advent</b> <b>10:00am</b> Worship Service & Children's Church  <b>Angel Tree Gifts Due</b>	<b>13</b> <b>9:30am</b> Caregivers <b>7:00pm</b> Session (C) <b>7:30pm</b> AlAnon (FH)	<b>14</b> <b>11:00am</b> Worship Planning & Staff	<b>15</b> <b>9:30am</b> Quilters (FH) <b>12:30pm</b> Ruth Circle (AL) <b>7:00pm</b> Mission (Z) <b>7:30pm</b> AA (FH)	<b>16</b> <b>1pm</b> Women's Bible Study	<b>17</b> <b>10:00pm</b> AA (FH)  Deadline for January Newsletter Articles and Updates	<b>18</b> <b>9:00am</b> United Church of God (FH)
<b>19 4th Sunday of Advent</b> <b>10:00am</b> Worship Service & Children's Christmas Play, Sandwich Sunday  <b>Mittens Due</b>	<b>20</b> <b>7:00pm</b> Worship and Music (Z) <b>7:30pm</b> AlAnon (FH)	<b>21</b> <b>11:00am</b> Worship Planning & Staff <b>7:00pm</b> Deacons (Z)	<b>22</b> <b>7:30pm</b> AA (FH)	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <b>Christmas Eve</b> 4pm, 9pm Candlelight and Communion	<b>25</b> <b>Christmas</b> <b>9:00am</b> United Church of God (FH)
<b>26</b> <b>10:00am</b> Worship Service with Opera singer Aida Carducci	<b>27</b> <b>7:00pm</b> Building and Grounds (Z) <b>7:30pm</b> AlAnon (FH)	<b>28</b> <b>11:00am</b> Worship Planning	<b>29</b> <b>7:30pm</b> AA (FH)	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> <b>10:00pm</b> AA (FH)	