

# TIDINGS

church office phone 315-635-9964 church office hours Monday – Friday 9 am – 2 pm  
published in the Church Office nursery school 315-635-7391 fax 315-638-4792 website presbville.com  
editor/admin - admin@presbville.com 10:00 am Sunday Worship

## **A FEW NOTES ON BEING PRESBYTERIAN**

When I was teaching my nursing students about conditions of the human eye, I would sometimes ask if anyone in the class was a Presbyterian. There was a method to my madness. I was teaching them about the condition known as “presbyopia” which is a natural development of the aging eye. Presbyopia is the reason why, as we get older, we hold objects further and further away. The root of “presbyopia” and “Presbyterian” is the same - “presby” which means “older” or “elder.” For we Presbyterians, it doesn’t mean we are all old, it means that we are ruled by elders!

As such, the minister is a “teaching elder” who teaches, preaches, administers the Sacraments, moderates Session meetings, and offers pastoral care. The Session members are “ruling elders” meaning that they run the church. Their duties include providing a place for the congregation to gather for worship; to lead regular efforts to reach the community and the world with a message of salvation; encourage faithful stewardship; bear witness against error in doctrine and serve in judicial matters, to name a few!

Presbyterians are also a “Confessional Church.” This doesn’t refer to the fact that we confess our sins, as we do each Sunday, and hopefully throughout the week. Rather, it has another meaning. As noted in our “Book of Confessions, “in the Christian tradition ... confession has an earlier, positive sense. To confess means openly to affirm, declare, acknowledge or take a stand for what one believes to be true. The truth that is confessed may include the admission of sin and guilt but is more than that. When Christians make a confession, they say, ‘This is what we most assuredly believe, regardless of what others may believe and regardless of the opposition, rejection, or persecution that may come to us for taking this stand.’”

As Presbyterians we have 12 Confessions. One of them we say in church each Sunday, “The Apostle’s Creed.” Others include the Nicene Creed, the Scots Confession, the Westminster Confession of Faith, the Theological Confession of Barmen and the Confession of 1967. If you’d like to have a look at all of our confessions, they can be found here:  
<https://nevadapresbytery.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2023/10/boc2016.pdf>

Presbyterians have a rich tradition of faith! It has developed over centuries and the influence of the Holy Spirit can be seen and appreciated every step of the way. In this season of Lent, as we take time away from our busy lives, we can take a moment or two to take a peek at our Confessions. They are worth every moment.

### **Identity Statement**

We are a loving family of God, following Christ by practicing our legacy of worship, education, and mission to neighbors.

## SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

A short Congregational Meeting has been called for Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> to elect members for the Nominating Committee. There will be an installation ceremony on March 17<sup>th</sup> to welcome the new church officers for 2024. A training program for the new officers shall be announced within the next few weeks.

Thank you to everyone for helping with the updating of our church membership rosters. This will assist us in being more accurate with our church mailings, email contacts and overall communication.

The **"Souper Bowl" Sunday Luncheon** was a great success! Thank you to everyone for all of their great soups, chilis, and desserts. The next **Community Dinner** shall take place on March 21, 2024. It is a sit-down dinner and we expect to prepare possibly 200 meals. We need lots of help to prepare this so please sign up to do what you can on the roster found in the kitchen. A **Baked Potato Luncheon** has been scheduled for April 28, 2024, and a **Palm Sunday Fish Sandwich Luncheon** has been proposed. More will follow on this.

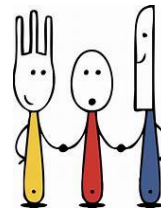
The Session shall be contacting outside companies to perform a financial audit this spring. The development of an IT committee is underway. If you are interested in serving on any of our many committees please contact the church office to express your interest.

-Stephanie Stine, Clerk of Session

### 2024 Session Elders

Tricia Adams	Harry Boak	Kathy Bowen
Andy Brussel	Mark Chamberlin	Matt Ducharme
Jamie Gruppe	Victor Jenkins	Matt McGivney
Doug Russell	Stephanie Stine*	

\*Clerk of Session



## Community Dinner

Our March Community Dinner will be Corned Beef, Cabbage, Red-skinned Potatoes, Carrots, Pumpnickel Bread and a choice of Chocolate or Yellow Cake with Green Frosting. This is almost the same menu we served at the annual Corned Beef Drive-Thru fund-raisers in the past. The last Drive-Thru was held in 2018, discontinued due to the fact that the increasing popularity outgrew our capacity. Not to be confused with the Drive-Thru fund-raiser, the March 2024 dinner is a FREE event, intended for folks who have difficulty putting food on the table or are in need of socialization. Unlike the past Drive-Thrus, people enjoy their meal in our dining room while visiting with others.

Lots of help will be needed to prepare this dinner so please step up and volunteer to bake cakes, peel carrots, scrub potatoes, set tables, pick up bread at Harrison Bakery, work in the dining room, help with cleanup or a number of other tasks. We have a job for everyone! Call/text/email Barb or sign up on the bulletin board in the Chancel Hall.

Community Dinners are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month. St. Mark's Lutheran Church hosts the even months, we host the odd months. Our Corned Beef dinner will be held at 4:00 on Thursday, March 21.



## March Birthdays

02 – Rick Smith	15 – Brennan Gruppe
06 – Miranda Pennock	17 – Pat Hovey
06 – Howard Rose	26 – Nancy Dobbins
07 – Fred Mathieson	29 – Dan Sheehan
11 – Eleanor Pennock	31 – Barb Winegard

## March Anniversaries

09 – Frank & Diana Anastas

Add your or a loved one's birthday or anniversary date to our list by contacting the church office.

## Contribution Statements

If you haven't received your 2023 contribution statement, please email [giving@presbville.com](mailto:giving@presbville.com) or call the church office. They were originally sent out the second week of January.

## Fish Luncheon



The Congregational Life Committee will be serving a fish sandwich luncheon immediately following worship on Sunday, March 24 (Palm Sunday). If you are interested in bringing a salad or dessert, please call Andy Brussel at 315-491-8126.



## 2024 Board of Deacons

Shane Adams*	Bea Boak	Peg Brussel
Marge Calkins	Andrea Ducharme	Tom Eckrote
Heidi Henderson	Joanne Rodriguez	Nancy Runyans
Matha Stevens	Barb Winegard	
	<i>*Moderator</i>	



## The March Calendar

### Sundays

9:15 – Choir practice in the Choir Room  
10:00 – Worship in the Sanctuary

### Mondays

6:30 - Bell practice in the Choir Room  
(no practice on Mon., Feb. 19)

### Sat., March 2

12 p.m. – Infinity Dance Recital

### Sunday, March 3

10:00 – Worship & Communion  
2:00 – Worship & Communion at Buckley Landing

### Mon., March 4

10:30 – Worship & Music, Media Center

### Tues., March 5

12:00 – Book Club, Media Center

### Sun., March 10

Daylight saving time begins—Spring ahead!

### Tues., March 12

7:00 – Session, Media Center

### Tues., March 19

7:00 – Deacons, Media Center

### Thurs., March 21

4 – 5:15 – Community Dinner

### Sun., March 24

10:00 – Palm/Passion Sunday Worship  
11:00 – Fish Sandwich Luncheon following worship

### Thurs., March 28

7:00 – Maundy Thursday Worship

### Fri., March 29

12-2 p.m. – The Sanctuary will be open for Good Friday Meditation

### Sun., March 31

10:00 – Easter Sunday Worship

## Souper Bowl Sunday!

ELEVEN delicious pots of homemade soup were enjoyed by all on "Souper" Bowl Sunday. Marge and Lee, assisted by daughter Heather and grandkids Lily and Luke, made hot grilled cheese sandwiches to order. And to top it off, we had a large assortment of delectable desserts. With lots of conversation, companionship and laughter, the luncheon was a huge success! We'll do it all again for Super Bowl LIX on February 9, 2025.



**Remember in Your Prayers  
& Correspondence,**

♡ HEALTH CHALLENGES

Karen Chamis  
Carol Hovey  
Nancy Runyans  
Sandy Smith  
Anthonia Todd

♡ GRIEVING

Jamie & Megan Gruppe and family upon the loss of Megan’s father.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

*Generally, names remain on the prayer list for one month. Please let the church office know if you wish otherwise.*

**March 3 – John 2:13-22**  
**March 10 – John 3:14-21**  
**March 17 – John 12:20-33**  
**March 24 – Mark 14:1-15**  
**March 31 – Luke 24:13-49**

The Link to the Revised Common Lectionary is  
[https://www.presbyterianmission.org/devotion/revised-common-lectionary/2024/2/4/Presbyterian Mission Agency](https://www.presbyterianmission.org/devotion/revised-common-lectionary/2024/2/4/Presbyterian%20Mission%20Agency)



**Nursery School News!**

Rhyming practice is a major theme in preschool and in March we will celebrate the master of rhyme, Dr. Seuss. All these years later, his silly stories continue to make the kids laugh!

Hello, did you find everything you needed? This is something you might hear in the 3 year old classroom during their grocery store week. The classroom is transformed into a store, with carts, aisles, and a check-out lane. The kids love the chance to pretend to be a grown-up as they shop and take turns being a cashier.

*-Jessica Newcomb, Director, PNS*

**From the Mailbox**

I would like to thank everyone in the Congregation who has helped me with the move to my new home. I will miss all of you and I will stay in touch.

-Amy Miller

Amy’s new address is:

The Birch House  
24 Stevenson Street  
Cortland, NY 13045

***Clean-Up Day!***



The Annual Spring Grounds Clean-Up will be at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 13. Join the crew to get some fresh air and exercise. We will reward ourselves with pizza and chocolate chip cookies after! A rain date is scheduled for the next day, Sunday, April 14, after worship.



***An Author Among Us!***

Congratulations to our church member Scott Furlong and his co-author, Michael Kraft, on their new book:

Public Policy: Politics, Analysis, and Alternatives

You can find out more about Scott’s book an Amazon.com

*Church Office – Education Center 64 Oswego St.*

*Pastor-----Rev. Kirsty H. Dickson-Maret  
Administrative Assistant-----Elizabeth Bayer  
Clerk of Session-----Stephanie Stine  
Deacon Moderator-----Shane Adams  
Director of Music & Choir-----Rheta Jenks  
Organist -----Lee Johnston  
Nursery School Director-----Jessica Newcomb*