North Star
November 2017

Making Disciples - Making a Difference

Meet our Staff:

Rev. David Preisendanz
Pastor
Monday - Thursday
(before lunch is the best time to reach him)
northprespastor@stny.rr.com

Deb Stamp
Director of Children & Youth Ministries
Monday - Friday (hours vary)
northpresyouth@stny.rr.com

Paul Holland
Music Director
Tuesday, 2 - 4pm & during rehearsals
northpresmusic@stny.rr.com

Barbara Mosher
Church Organist
northpresorgan@stny.rr.com

Heather Flandreau
Church Administrator
Monday - Friday, 9am - 2pm
northpresoffice@stny.rr.com

Pat Richards
Financial Secretary
Tuesday 3pm - 5pm
northpresfinance@stny.rr.com

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Please – remember your church in your will!
Harvest Dinner
North Presbyterian Church
921 College Avenue, Elmira

And the harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.
James 3:18

November 4th | 4:30-6:30 pm

$8.00 Adults | $6.00 Children under 12

Enjoy turkey dinner with all the fixings!

Eat in or take out. Delivery available!

607-734-2977 | northpresoffice@stny.rr.com
Please have your children join us on **November 19** for **Operation Christmas Child**. We will gather during Sunday School (**11:00 - 12:30**) to pack Christmas boxes for needy children. Pizza lunch and goodies will be provided. Below is a list of items needed for shoe boxes. A display will be out in the Narthex along with a bin for items donated. We thank you for your generosity and pray your children will join us.

**The following items are needed for shoe boxes:**

**Personal Needs**: toothbrushes, bars of soap, wash cloths, combs, hairbrushes, compact mirrors, colorful adhesive bandages, non-liquid lip balm, reusable plastic containers (water bottles, cups/bowls/blunt edged utensils), small flashlights, small blankets

**School Items**: crayons/markers/colored pencils, pens, pencils, pencil cases, glue sticks, rulers, protractors, safety scissors, pencil sharpeners, blank index cards, solar powered calculators, small adhesive tape

**Toys & Games**: match box cars, small dolls, small stuffed animals, small books, water color sets, puzzles, playdough, stickers, building blocks, small musical instruments, yo-yos

**No liquids please. We are not allowed to put anything of a religious nature in the boxes. Thank you for your support of such a wonderful cause.**

Please join us on **November 26** for a dish to pass brunch and the annual **Hanging of the Greens**. There is no Sunday School this day, so we will gather directly following the worship service in Willits Hall. We ask that you bring a favorite dish to pass (casseroles etc.) and enjoy a delicious lunch and time of fellowship. It’s a wonderful time to gather with our church family decorating our sanctuary, narthex and Willits Hall for the Advent season. We hope to see you there!
# November Worship Volunteers

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<th>Greeters</th>
<th>Nursery &amp; Wee Worship</th>
<th>Counters</th>
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<tr>
<td>11/5 Ethan Wilson &amp; Gunner Wilcox</td>
<td>11/5 Liz Wilson &amp; Linda Palmer</td>
<td>11/5 Annette Stevens &amp; Deb Stamp</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/12 Joan Barneski</td>
<td>11/12 Mickey Vischansky &amp; Deb Stamp</td>
<td>11/12 Annette Stevens &amp; Jim Mosher</td>
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<td>11/19 Linda Palmer</td>
<td>11/19 Ann Motley &amp; Glenda Solowiej</td>
<td>11/19 Phil &amp; Lynda Carpentier</td>
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<th>Ushers</th>
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<td>11/5 Team Campbell</td>
<td>11/5 Ethan Wilson &amp; Gunner Wilcox</td>
<td>11/5 Bobbi Furnas</td>
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<td>11/12 Team Batrowny/Richards</td>
<td>11/12 Kurt Kalweit</td>
<td>11/12 Pam Caroscio</td>
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<td>11/19 Team Carpentier</td>
<td>11/19 Jeff Richards</td>
<td>11/19 Annie LeFevre</td>
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<td>11/26 Team Russell/Rolls</td>
<td>11/26 TBA</td>
<td>11/26 Anne Beattie</td>
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<th>Worship Assistant</th>
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<td>11/5 Ethan Wilson &amp; Gunner Wilcox</td>
<td>11/5 Bill Furnas</td>
<td>11/5 Cathy Campbell</td>
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<td>11/12 Kurt Kalweit</td>
<td>11/12 TBA</td>
<td>11/12 Cheryl Allison &amp; Joan Barneski</td>
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<td>11/19 Jeff Richards</td>
<td>11/19 Tim Allison</td>
<td>11/19 Barb Duryea &amp; Karen Mosteller</td>
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<td>11/26 TBA</td>
<td>11/26 Ed Wilson</td>
<td>11/26 Wendy Swatling &amp; Janice Williams</td>
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<td>11/5 Cindy Kalweit</td>
<td>11/5 Bobbi Furnas</td>
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<td>11/12 Joan Barneski</td>
<td>11/12 Suzie Hoskins</td>
<td>11/12 Pam Caroscio</td>
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<td>11/19</td>
<td>11/26 Annie LeFevre</td>
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- We are in need of a Worship Assistant on November 26 and a Tech Booth volunteer on November 12. Please contact the church office or Pastor David if you are willing to serve. Thank you!
- As we head into 2018, please take some time to reflect on how you can continue to serve North Pres. If you are interested in signing up to fill any of the important worship volunteer roles listed above, please contact the church office for more information. Thanks!

## Congregational Care

Pastor David will normally be in the church office Monday – Thursday, and the best time to reach him at the office will be before lunch. If you need to reach him after office hours, please call him at home, (607) 397-3173. If your call is normal church business, please save the call until office hours; call him at home whenever the matter cannot wait until the office is open.
An educational program for Children & Youth ages 3-18 is available each Sunday morning starting at 11:00 in the 2nd floor classrooms. Come join us as we take a journey learning about God and his plan for us. **Youth Group will meet once a month. Bring a friend or two, and join us for a time of fellowship and fun.** For more information on programs for children & youth contact Deb Stamp at 734-2977 or northpresyouth@stny.rr.com.

Pastor Dave is leading an adult study entitled **“Get Acquainted with Your Bible”**. This is an eight-week survey of the entire Bible that we will break up into two separate studies. The first five sessions that included an introduction and the study of the Old Testament will wrap up on 11/5 and 11/19. We will pick up the study of the New Testament in the New Year. Please join us in the Keyser Library following Fellowship Time as we get (re-) acquainted with our Bible. Please contact Cindy Kalweit with questions.

There will be an **Adult Forum on November 12.** Representatives from the Southern Tier Pregnancy Resource Center will provide information about the Center and their work in our community. Please join us in the Keyser Library beginning at 11:00 am.

**Wednesday Noon Bible Study**

- **When:** Wednesdays at noon
- **No class on November 22**
- **What:** “Listening for God” ends November 8
  “Forgiveness” starts November 15
- **Where:** Brisbane Room
- **Who:** All are welcome to attend, feel free to bring a lunch
- **Contact:** Bobbi Furnas, 733-4712

**Women’s Bible Study**

- **When:** Wednesdays at 7:00 pm
- **Ending November 15**
- **What:** A study on 2 Corinthians, “All Things New”
- **Where:** Keyser Library
- **Who:** All women are invited to attend
- **Contact:** Cindy Kalweit, 742-5911/ckalweit63@gmail.com

**Men’s Bible Study**

- **When:** Tuesdays at 7:00 pm
- **Ending November 7**
- **What:** A six session video study “Goliath Must Fall”
- **Where:** Keyser Library
- **Who:** All men are invited to attend
- **Contact:** Joel Buice, 734-1339

**Adult Advent Study: December 3 – December 31** - “When God Comes Down” by James A. Harnish. This study explores the meaning of the incarnation...God with us in human flesh. “Often our Advent/Christmas journey is focused on us – our memories, feelings, relationships and experiences. This study puts the focus on God’s action in Jesus Christ. It encourages us to think more deeply in terms of the biblical, theological, and spiritual meaning of the Nativity and to apply it to our every-day lives.” We will meet in the **Keyser Library at 11:00 am.** Hope to see you there! Contact Cindy Kalweit with questions.
NPC hosts a monthly blood drive, usually held on the first Thursday of every month. We will host a Community Blood Drive this month on Thursday, November 2 from noon to 4 pm. New and returning donors are welcome. Please contact the Red Cross at 1-800 RED CROSS or www.redcrossblood.org for an appointment.

On Saturday, November 4 from 4:30 - 6:30 pm the Youth Group will be hosting a Harvest Dinner. Please mark this on your calendar. The dinner is open to the public, $6.00 per child and $8.00 per adult. The proceeds from this dinner will benefit the youth programs at NPC. For information please see the flyer on page 2 or contact Deb Stamp at northpresyouth@stny.rr.com. Thank you!

Daylight saving time ends at 2:00 am on Sunday, November 5. Don’t forget to set your clocks back 1 hour before going to bed on Saturday, November 4!

November’s First Wednesday dinner will be held on the SECOND Wednesday, November 8 at 5:30 pm. We will be serving pot roast, roasted carrots and roasted potatoes. The meal will also include a tossed salad, coffee, lemonade and dessert. We hope you will join us!

November’s Men’s Breakfast will be held on the 11th at 8:00 am. All NPC men are invited to come share a time of fellowship and delicious food. We hope to see you there!

There will be a church workday on November 11 at 9:00 am. Please see Mickey Vischansky with any questions. All are invited to come and help!

Michael Kowulich November 1
Riley Stethers-Shaw November 3
Ana Edwards November 5
Lynn Hendershot November 5
Samantha Moshier November 14
Alexander Bottcher November 17
Angela Vischansky November 17
Jacob Wilcox November 18
Gary Doolittle November 19
Dick Schornstheimer November 19
Katey Hadlock November 20
Geoffry Rolls November 27
Matthew Dalrymple November 28

The Food Pantry will be closed on Friday, November 10 in observance of Veteran’s Day. All church offices will be closed on Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24 in observance of Thanksgiving. The Food Pantry will be closed on Friday, November 24 in observance of Thanksgiving.

Heather will be out of the office on November 17. Deb will be out of the office on Wednesday, November 22 and Sunday, November 26.
November Pantry Needs:
- Canned Peas
- Canned Gravy
- Boxed Mashed Potatoes
- Stuffing
- Plastic Bags

2017 Scouting for Food:
Bag drop off will take place on Saturday November 4
Bag pick-up is on Saturday morning November 11
Scouting for Food is the Boy Scouts’ effort to provide community service on a large scale basis. This food drive has been leading the way for more than two and a half decades to mobilize thousands of Scouts to collect food for those in need. All the food items collected in our area go directly to participating food pantries that serve people in our local community. Please consider helping our local troop deliver bags on 11/4 starting at 9:00 am, or volunteer to help pick up, sort, and deliver food on 11/11. Also, please set aside some time on November 11 starting at noon to help sort through the donations coming to our food pantry. Contact Pat Richards or the church office for more information. Thank you!

November 5
Brian and Rhonda Tebin
Sylvia Tuller

November 12
The Vanderhoff Family
The Washburn Family

November 19
Nancy Varnum
The Vischansky Family
Jim & Candice Wainwright

November 26
The Wilcox Family
Janice Williams

November 5
Erin Jacob
907 West Gray Street
Apartment B
Elmira, NY 14905

November 12
Laura Smith
550 East Church Street
Apartment 903
Elmira, NY 14901

November 19
Betty Carney
74 Smith Road
Millport, NY 14864

November 26
Margaret Densberger
660 West Washington Avenue
Elmira, NY 14901

Please have your children join us on **November 19** for **Operation Christmas Child**. We will gather during Sunday School (**11:00 - 12:30**) to pack Christmas boxes for needy children. Pizza lunch and goodies will be provided. A list of items needed for shoe boxes is on page 3. A display will be in the Narthex along with a bin for items donated. We thank you for your generosity and pray your children will join us.

Please join us on **November 26** for a dish to pass brunch and the annual **Hanging of the Greens**. There is no Sunday School this day, so we will gather directly following the worship service in Willits Hall. We ask that you bring a favorite dish to pass (casseroles etc.) and enjoy a delicious lunch and time of fellowship. It’s a wonderful time to gather with our church family decorating our sanctuary, narthex and Willits Hall for the Advent season. We hope to see you there!
Where did October go? We had some amazing weather this past month. I was even able to slip in some vacation time before we started planning and shopping for the Harvest Dinner, but I seriously feel like the month of October flew by. I would like to thank all the volunteers who signed up to keep the Harvest Dinner a tradition for North Pres Church. It takes an army of volunteers to cook, serve and clean up after the dinner, but it all seems worth it when you meet the people who attend the dinner. Old friends reconnect and families get together to break bread and support our youth program. This is our biggest fundraiser supporting the youth mission trip we go on every summer. I would like to welcome some new faces to the nursery/wee worship program. Cathy Campbell and Ana Edwards have joined the ranks of volunteers, along with Theresa Houck and Chloe Donovan. Each one has brought a creative new twist to the program and the little ones are loving it! Thank you for taking the time to volunteer in helping to give our little ones the knowledge of God’s love for us. Thank you also to Becky Kowulich for filling in as music director for the Good News Singers while Susie Hoskins is away. Please note the article for Operation Christmas Child that is in the North Star (page 3) and upcoming bulletins. Included are items we are asking to be donated to fill shoe boxes on November 19. The list has changed somewhat and there are certain items we can’t use that we have used in the past. Many thanks as always for the continued generosity of our congregation. Without all of you we would not be able to share God’s love with so many needy children.

God Bless you all!
Deb Stamp
Director of Children and Youth Ministries

November: 11/12, 2:00 pm
Roller Skating at Joycrest

December: 12/10 time TBA
1. The meeting was called to order by Rev. Preisendanz at 7:00 p.m. and was opened with Scripture and prayer led by Linda Palmer.

2. Minutes of the September 18, 2017 stated Session meeting were reviewed and approved as submitted.

3. The Session received the Financial Statements for September 2017 and year-to-date as reviewed by the Treasurer.

4. Rev. Preisendanz reported that he was very pleased and honored to host the Ecumenical World Communion Sunday worship service. He is glad that NPC has stepped back into the ecumenical ministry of the community. Rev. Preisendanz also reported that the Inter-Faith Thanksgiving service, which was scheduled to be held at Trinity Episcopal Church on Sunday, November 19, 2017 at 4:00 p.m., has been cancelled. Rev. Preisendanz will be away (Personal Days approved by Staff Relations) 10/24-10/26. He has secured pastoral coverage for any emergencies that should arise while he is away.

5. Jeff Richards reported on the September 26, 2017 Presbytery meeting which was held in Waterloo. He and Rev. Preisendanz attended the meeting.

6. Session approved the use of the Sanctuary by the Thursday Morning Musicales on 4/12/2018 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The Buildings and Grounds committee has approved the use of the Library, Choir Room, and Brisbane Room.

7. Copies of the 2018 Proposed Budget were provided for review. Discussion and approval of the Budget scheduled for the November 20, 2017 Session meeting.

8. A lengthy discussion was held regarding the approval to transfer $9,236 from the Endowment Fund (10% proceeds of the Doris Woodford estate) to the Food Pantry. A motion was made by the Finance Committee Chairman to rescind the transfer as the Food Pantry has a carryover of $8654.63, which can be used to pay expenses through the end of 2018. The motion failed to pass (Ayes – 2, Nays – 2, Abstain – 1)

9. A discussion regarding the scheduling for Christmas Eve services was held. A motion to have a 9:30 a.m. children’s/family service and a 9:30 p.m. traditional service with organ prelude beginning at 9:00, was made by Ann Motley, seconded by Jeff Richards. Motion carried.

10. Next scheduled meeting – Monday, November 20, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

11. The meeting was closed in prayer by Rev. Preisendanz at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Kalweit, Clerk of Session
Fall Festival 2017!

We had a great time September 30 ushering in the season with our friends and neighbors. A huge thank you to Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Grace Episcopal Church, St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church, and Trinity Episcopal Church for partnering with us to celebrate the love of Christ and build Christian unity.

A huge thank you, too, to the many volunteers who helped make this event possible from set-up to clean-up, baking cookies, cooking and serving lunch, supervising games and crafts, distributing mittens and hats – without YOU this outreach does not happen!

We are continually amazed by the creations of the balloon makers, and the children (and adults!) loved having a pumpkin to take home. The children also took home a bag of school supplies along with their hats and mittens.

Special thanks to the Elmira College Women’s Ice Hockey Team – the ladies were so sweet to take the time to help with crafts, games, and the Snoopy inflatable. We enjoyed their company immensely! Please support them – they will be playing at home (the Domes) on Friday, November 17 at 7 pm and Saturday, November 18 at 3 pm.

“It was He who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God’s people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.”
Ephesians 4:11-13

May God bless you and yours as we all find our place in the body of Christ, Amen!
Fellowship News

First Wednesday Dinner on October 4 was a huge success. We offered homemade pulled pork, applesauce, mashed potatoes and coleslaw for dinner. In addition we provided several servings of chicken nuggets for those who did not want pork with bbq sauce.

A very pleasant surprise for the dinner was the number of Elmira College female hockey players who joined us for the meal. A few of them had helped during the Fall Festival the weekend before and we invited them back for our dinner.

In all, 16 players came and enjoyed the meal. We served 80 people in Willits Hall and provided 13 dinners to go for a total of 93 participants. Thankfully, we had enough Pulled pork, with perhaps one serving left over. The meal used 25 pounds of pork, 30 pounds of potatoes, 8 pounds of coleslaw, and 2 and 1/2 gallons of homemade applesauce.

We are planning on pot roast, roasted carrots and roasted potatoes for the November First Wednesday dinner. It will be held on November 8, a week later than usual to accommodate kitchen needs preparing for the Harvest Dinner on November 4. During our November meal we will also provide a tossed salad, coffee, lemonade and dessert.

Men’s Breakfast was held on Saturday October 14. Jim Pfiffer, of Chemung River Friends, led an inspired lecture on the osprey that inhabit the river watershed. He provided photos and video of the birds in action, building nests, fishing and feeding their young. Jim’s presentation followed a meal of three cheese quiche, mixed fruit cup, featherlight pancakes and syrup, apple cider and coffee. Sadly, several regular participants were absent this month, with only 7 people taking part in the meal and presentation.

Respectfully submitted.
Jeff Richards, Fellowship Chair

Finance News

To help with end-of-the-year planning, contribution statements for the first three quarters of 2017 are available at the welcome center in the narthex before or after service. If you need your statement mailed to you, please call the church office or Pat Richards (732-3268).

AmazonSmile is a way for you to support North Pres every time you shop. To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com. On your first visit select United Presbyterian Church in the USA North Presbyterian Church before you begin shopping. The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible purchases. It’s that easy!
September 2017 presbytery meeting

The September presbytery meeting was held in Waterloo.

One significant topic of interest was the first reading of the proposed 2018 budget presented by Budget and Finance member Tim Johnson. Some presbytery members questioned applying a portion of the interim executive’s salary to the Mission line.

General council had asked the same question two weeks early during its monthly meeting leading up to the presbytery meeting. The first proposal had ALL of the interim’s salary under mission. The rationale was that the work Linda Badger Becker is doing is really mission. During her tenure with us she is rebuilding trust and reestablishing committees that had been stripped of their involvement during the previous administration under the guidance of Joelle Davis.

Regardless, General Council recommended shifting a portion of it to salary and operation of the office. After much discussion during the presbytery meeting, with pastors and ruling elders asking how to explain to their congregations that mission monies are being spent on staff salary, it was sent back to general Council for further consideration.

Last week general council spent another 25 minutes addressing these concerns. Tim is confident that his department will be able to come up with a new proposal that should meet greater acceptance. The bottom line is that unless we raise per capita to cover salary, we will be in deficit on that portion of the budget and show an excess on the mission side.

Linda has visited many of the churches within our presbytery during her first six months here.

She brings enthusiasm, energy and insight every step of the way as she leads us forward. In addition to our monthly 3 hour general council meetings we have doubled up and have another 3 hours of visioning and training as we develop recommendations on how to move forward in our presbytery.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Richards
North Presbyterian Church Commissioner to Geneva Presbytery

SAVE THE DATES! ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS EVENTS

- Sunday Morning Advent Worship Service: December 3 (with Holy Communion), 10, and 17, 9:30 am
- Wednesday Fellowship Dinner: December 6, 5:30 pm
- Wednesday Prayer & Holy Communion Service: November 29, December 6, 13, and 20, 7:00-7:30 pm
- Christmas Caroling: Sunday, December 17, 3:00 pm
- Christmas Eve Worship: Sunday, December 24
  - Family Christmas Eve Service - 9:30 am
  - Christmas Music Concert - 9:00 pm
  - Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols - 9:30 pm
  Join us for carol singing and the good news of Jesus’ birth!
It’s that time of year again!

It is time to start thinking of our homebound members and making their Christmas season a little brighter. The box with Christmas Cards and the mailbox will be at the Welcome Center November 26 - December 17, along with the list of our homebound members.

Please take some cards and make one out for each of our homebound friends, putting only their name on the front of the envelope. Please return the mailbox on the Welcome Center by December 17 so the Deacons will be able to deliver them. Please contact the church office or Bobbi Furnas with any questions.

A Holiday for our members at Home

Look for the “angel” tree that will be in the narthex soon and select a tag that holds a gift idea for one of our homebound members.

Go shopping and bring your wrapped gift (with the tag attached) to the tree by December 10.

The gifts will be delivered by the Deacons. This is a nice way to show we care for our homebound members - they are still a part of our church family & the love of Jesus is being shared with them.

May God Bless You!

Thank you!
### Worship and Event Cancellation Information

In the event of a severe weather forecast which would make traveling hazardous, NPC worship services and events may be canceled and rescheduled for another date. A decision to cancel will normally be communicated no later than three hours before the time when the service/event is scheduled to begin.

The church office and food pantry will follow the inclement weather delay/closure decision of the Elmira City School District. Information regarding cancellation will be disseminated through the church’s Facebook page and the church’s outgoing phone message.

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<td>10:00: Food Pantry</td>
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<td>12:00: Bible Study</td>
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<td>5:15: AA Meeting</td>
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<td>6:15: Bell Choir</td>
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<td>6:30: AA Meeting</td>
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<td>7:00: Men’s Bible Study</td>
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**Deadline:**
- Newsletter Articles

- Food Pantry Closed
- Church Offices Closed

**Worship:**
- 9:30: Worship
- 10:30: Fellowship
- 11:00: Sunday School
- 2:00: Youth Group

**Operation Christmas Child**
- 11:00: Sunday School/
- Operation Christmas Child

**Church Workday:**
- 8:00: AA Meeting

**Church Offices Closed:**
- 8:00: AA Meeting

**Mission Meeting:**
- 12:00 pm: Mission Meeting

**Trust Women:**
- 10:00: Trust Women

**Trust Women:**
- 10:00: Trust Women

**Session Meeting:**
- 7:00: Session Meeting

**Trust Women:**
- 10:00: Trust Women

**Trust Women:**
- 10:00: Trust Women

**Staff Meeting:**
- 3:15: Staff Meeting

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**Staff Meeting:**
- 3:15: Staff Meeting

**Staff Meeting:**
- 11:00: Sunday School/
- Operation Christmas Child

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