

North Presbyterian Church
921 College Avenue
Elmira, NY 14901-2048
www.northpres.church
Phone: 607-734-2977
Fax: 607-734-2978

Worship: Sunday at 9:30 am

NORTH STAR

May 2021

Making Disciples - Making a Difference

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Meet the Staff

Pastor Evan Hansen	Pastor pastor@northpres.church Open Door Office Hours: T & W 1:30-4pm
Paul Holland	Music Director music@northpres.church
Sharon Reynolds	Organist organist@northpres.church
Deb Stamp	Director of Children & Youth Ministries youth@northpres.church
Gretchen Duffy	Office Administrator office@northpres.church

NOTICE: As many groups, meetings & committees at NPC are beginning to reopen, stay tuned to our Fb page for updates & website for updates

A Letter from Pastor Hansen

At the beginning of Advent last year, you may have noticed over the Zoom feed a new parament covering the communion table. Our new blue Advent communion table parament or “frontal,” is divided in half by a wavy horizontal band of gold fabric with a large, slightly off-centered star of the same gold fabric. Above the horizontal band is beautiful blue silk; and, under the band are strips of cotton fabric in varying patterns. The star is symbolic not only of the star over Bethlehem, but also the dark nights of winter we experience north of the Equator during Advent. The gold band is reminiscent of rolling hills and reminds us of the long, wandering journey we make during the Advent season as well as journeys people took to arrive in Bethlehem. The contrasting fabrics reinforce the image of a night sky that would soon be filled with angelic choirs proclaiming the birth of the Messiah, Jesus of Nazareth.

Christians have long used art in their places of worship. While excavating the ancient city of Dura-Europos in the mid-1930s, a team from Yale University discovered the earliest example we have of an early house church. The house church of Dura Europos contained depictions of Jesus Christ dating back to 235 AD. These are the earliest church paintings that archeologists have found to date. It is amazing to think that at least as early as 200 years after Jesus’ death and resurrection, the early Christian community was using art in their places of worship to draw our thoughts and our hearts away from ourselves and to convey beauty and meaning.

In April 1971 edition of *The North Star*, there is an article written by Mrs. Peg Hilbert, describing new paraments that members of the congregation had given to North that spring. The four new sets of paraments consisted of communion table scarves, lectern and pulpit hangings, Bible markers, and clergy stoles. There was a purple set for Advent and Lent; a white set for the Season of Easter and Christmas; a red set for Pentecost; and, a green set for Ordinary Time. If one looks at pictures of worship after 1971, one can see these paraments in use in the old sanctuary. Unfortunately, the paraments were destroyed in the fire of 1999.

Currently our congregation’s paraments are primarily the beautiful banners that hang from the walls behind the communion table on either side of the large wood cross in the sanctuary. In November 2020, Worship and Music decided to purchase the Advent communion table frontal. To date, we have been able to use various sources of funds to purchase the Advent communion table frontal, the purple Lenten communion table frontal, and the new white communion table frontal for Easter and Christmas. However, the funds used to purchase the first three frontals are no longer available to purchase the last frontal, a green communion table frontal for Ordinary Time. Worship and Music would also like to add four scarves for each set, and a bible marker for each set.

Session has authorized the Worship and Music Committee to raise funds to purchase these last items to add to the paraments we already have and will continue to use. We will not know the exact cost of the scarves or the bible markers until they are measured and ordered, but we do know that cost of the handmade and custom-made, green communion table frontal will be \$1,665.00. Our goal is to raise enough money to cover the cost of the new frontal and the remaining items. While it is true that we will be replacing some of what was lost twenty-two (22) years ago this June, the goal of the campaign is best summarized in the words of Mrs. Peg Hilbert, the author of the April 1971 *North Star* article, in which she states regarding the 1971 paraments, “[t]hese parament sets will add beauty to our [s]anctuary and meaning to our worship for years to come.”

Please consider contributing to this project to add beauty and meaning to our worship services. If you would like to donate, please contact Pat Richards, our Treasurer. If you have questions about the paraments or the campaign itself, please feel free to contact me or Tim Allison, the moderator of Worship and Music, or the members of Worship and Music, Pam Caroscio, Paul Holland, Becky Kowulich, Jim Mosher, Ann Motley, or Linda Palmer.

Warmly in Christ,
Pastor Evan

COME FIND US!



<https://www.facebook.com/North-Presbyterian-Church-317905658221204>



<https://www.northpres.church/>



JUST A LITTLE *Reminder*

Many groups, committees and meetings are beginning to meet in person. Please stay tuned to our Facebook page and church website for updates. Please join us!

May Worship Volunteers

Tech Booth

May 2 Bill Furnas
May 9 Steve Allison
May 16 Ed Wilson
May 23 Bill Furnas
May 30 Steve Allison

Maitre D

April Janice Williams

Children & Youth Message

Deb Stamp

Ushers

May 2 Kurt & Cindy Kalweit
May 9 George Batrowny, Pat or Jeff Richards
May 16 Janice Williams, Phil Carpentier
May 23 Jerry Russell, Joe Rolls, Bob Russell
May 30 Wendy Swatling, Barb Duryea

Counters

May 2 Suzie Hoskins , Deb Stamp
May 9 Phil Carpentier and Jeff Richards
May 16 Cindy & Kurt Kalweir
May 23 Annette Stevens and Janice Williams
May 30 Dolores Cummings , Janice Willams

Wee Worship

May 2 Ann Motley, Ethan Wilson
May 9 Karen Wilson, Barb Duryea
May 16 Liz Wilson, Brenna Wilson
May 23 Mickey Vischansky, Deb Stamp
May 30 Ann Motley and Ethan Wilson

Worship Assistant

May 2 Suzie Hoskins
May 9 Tim Allison
May 16 Wendy Swatling
May 23 TBD
May 30 TBD



May 2:
Kayla Tyler

May 9:
Audrey & Larry Vanderhoff
Larry and Mason Vanderhoff

May 16:
Heather Moffett
Lucas VanRiper
Lorelei and Elijah Moffett

May 23:
Nancy Varnum

May 30:
Joseph & Michelle Vischansky
Anthony, Robert and Angela Vischansky

**Jesus tells us
to pray without ceasing
for the good of God's people.**

May 2:
Cynthia Klungle
808 West Gray Street
Elmira, NY 14905

May 9:
Audrey Lutz
219 Crete Avenue
Elmira, NY 14901

May 16:
Adele Roberts
1722 West Church Street
Elmira, NY 14905

May 23:
Marilyn Edwards
520 Harcourt Drive
Elmira, NY 14904

May 30:
Hazel Thompson
Woodbrook Assisted Living
1250 Maple Avenue, Rm. 319
Elmira, NY 14904



**Send a
Card
Today!**



**We would like to remind everyone that they are welcome to attend
Session Meetings.**

If you are interested in attending one, please contact the church office.



CHILDREN & YOUTH



Children and Youth Ministry May 2021

It's amazing how fast this year has been going by. I can't believe we are in May already. Christian Ed. has been very busy during the last part of March and the month of April. Sunday school is back in full force along with wee worship. On the Sat. before Palm Sunday we gathered at the church for a communion class for our Sunday school kids. We had eleven children attend ranging in age from three to thirteen years of age. Pastor Evan held a communion class in the Sanctuary in which he explained the ritual of communion and what it means. He asked lots of questions of the kids, who had some really great answers. Afterward, we headed to the kitchen to make unleavened bread for Easter Sunday communion and enough for the kids to take home and sample. It was a fun morning and the kids had a great time. We planned a big Easter egg hunt for the little ones on Easter and there were eggs galore!!! We had purchased bags for the hunt so everyone had the same size and, let me tell you, they were overflowing by the time it was over. Being in church on Easter was such a good feeling after missing last year and the Easter egg hunt was the icing on the cake! We are planning some nice surprises for Mother's Day and Father's Day and are hoping to finalize plans for an outdoor movie night the first weekend in June. If that goes well we would like to have another the weekend of Sat July 10th, before VBS starts. Speaking of VBS, if anyone is interested in volunteering this year please let Suzie Hoskins or myself know and we will find you a spot. I'm praying you are all staying healthy and happy.

Blessings in Christ,

Deb Stamp, Dir. of Children and Youth Ministry

Bible Quiz

According to Matthew, who was present at Jesus' baptism? (Choose as many as apply.)

- A. John the Baptist
- B. The Spirit of God
- C. Jesus' mother, Mary
- D. His first disciples



Answer: A and B (See Matthew 3:13-17.)

Bible Quiz

Which follower of Jesus preached to the crowds after receiving the Holy Spirit on Pentecost?

- A. John
- B. Peter
- C. Mary Magdalene
- D. Paul



Answer: B (See Acts 2:14ff)

Did You Know?



We are happy to be holding weekly worship service in the sanctuary again! If you would prefer to meet remotely, we will continue to have the Zoom conference call and broadcast to the parking lot. Each week, indefinitely, we will continue to provide an email to the congregation that includes a Zoom link for anyone that wishes to participate in worship remotely. If you are not comfortable with Zoom, you can still come to the parking lot and listen to the service on the 1700AM radio station. Please read below a handy guide to safe social distancing practices for Sunday worship services. Please review the information below and if you have any questions please feel free to reach out to the church office or any member of Session. Remember, we are all in this together!



This Sunday
Attend church
without leaving
your car!



Parking Lot Worship:

- **Cars will park at least six feet apart.** Please use only the North Entrance (towards Roe Ave.) We will have someone guiding your parking.
- **All congregants will remain in their cars for the entirety of the service.**
- **Windows will remain no more than half open and doors will remain closed.**

Please tune your radio to 1700AM.

- **Parishioners will not sit in the beds of pickup trucks.**
- **A box or basket will be provided for parishioners to deposit their tithes and offerings without engaging in social contact or leaving their vehicle.**

Someone will have a basket available to you as you exit. Please have your mask on if you roll down your window.

- **At the conclusion of the services, parishioners will exit as they came.**

You will be guided when to pull out. Due to car spacing requirements, we will need to limit the number of cars in the parking lot. Please understand if you are turned away. If the lot is full, please know that you can still pick up the radio signal from the surrounding neighborhood streets.

- **Zoom service Link will be emailed each week for those who would like to partic-**

Sanctuary Worship:

- **Masks are required per Executive Order for all people entering and within the building during worship service.**
- Congregants will abstain from gathering socially in the narthex or sanctuary. Hand sanitizer and masks are available. Trash receptacles are at all exits.
- Entering through the front door, congregants will remain 6 feet apart as they wait in line to register at the Welcome Center for purposes of possible contact tracing later, if needed.
- All congregants will then move to the podium to their left and wait to be seated. Congregants will be seated with social distancing in place.
- There will be no sharing of the peace to minimize physical contact.
- There will be no singing. A mental reflective contemplation of the words is encouraged.
- Friendship pads and hymnals have been removed from pews to minimize contact transmission.
- The service will always appear on the large screen at the front of the church.
- Congregants are welcome to leave service and continue participating in their car at any time if they feel the need to do so.



Committee/Coordinator	Email Address
Audit	audit@northpres.church
Buildings & Grounds	campus@northpres.church
Building Use	building_use@northpres.church
Clerk of Session	session@northpres.church
Deacons	deacons@northpres.church
Education	education@northpres.church
Fellowship	fellowship@northpres.church
Finance	finance@northpres.church
Mission & Outreach	misson_outreach@northpres.church
Nominating	nominating@northpres.church
Staff Relations	staff_relations@northpres.church
Tech & Communications	tech_com@northpres.church
Treasurer	Financial_sec@northpres.church
Worship & Music	worship@northpres.church

Staff	Email Address
Church Administrator	office@northpres.church
Director of Youth Ministries	youth@northpres.church
Music Director	music@northpres.church
Organist	organist@northpres.church
Pastor	pastor@northpres.church

May Food Pantry

Shopping List:

The following items are needed this month for the Food Pantry:

- *Ketchup (in plastic bottles)*
- *Mustard (in plastic bottles)*
- *Boxed Crackers*
- *Monetary donations are also welcome.*



In the Spotlight

The Staff Relations Committee would like to introduce our new organist, Sharon Reynolds.

Sharon is a member of the Seventh Day Adventist Church where she also plays the organ. She and her husband, Jim, have 3 grown children, 2 sons and a daughter.

A granddaughter and grandson round out their family. Jim is self-employed in electronics repair.

Sharon has many hobbies which keep her busy: gardening, hiking/walking, birding, knitting and cooking. Both she and Jim are beekeepers with 6 hives currently. Happily, all 6 hives survived the winter!



Sharon loves our organ. Almost every morning, you can hear her beautiful music as she practices.

Welcome, Sharon, to our North Church family!

Friendly Reminders

From the Board of Deacons

If you are aware of any member or former member of our church family who is sick, hungry, injured, hospitalized or homebound, please contact us at 607-734-2977. With the Pandemic still going on, it is hard to know who is in need of pastoral care, unless informed.



God Bless,
The Board of Deacons

The Geneva Presbytery is promoting a donation program to benefit Camp Whitman.

North Pres will be accepting donations May 3-May 7, 9am –2pm.

Donations will be picked up and taken to
Camp Whitman.



*Please see our Facebook page and NPC website for links to these items.

Women's Bible Study has resumed!

We will meet on Tuesdays at 6:00 pm.

We are studying Broken and Blessed by Jessica LaGrone.

If you are interested, please contact Suzie Hoskins
(733-1256).



Please join us for Sunday School!

All ages are meeting after worship on Sundays.



Wednesday Noon Bible Study has resumed.

We will meet in the Narthex -masked and socially distanced.

You are welcome to join at any time.

We will continue with our study "End Times", starting at chapter 4.

If you don't have the book, please contact Bobbi Furnas at 733-4712





The Fellowship Committee is excited to offer NPC members a chance to get rid of electronic items – for free!

We will hold a congregation electronics recycling day on
May 11 from 9 am. until 1 pm. in the NPC parking lot.

REACT has graciously offered to come to us, pick up the items and recycle them. Please bring only those items listed below, as REACT can only recycle these items.

There are three ways to get your items to us:

- Bring your items to the parking lot on the morning of May 11.
- Drop off your items after church in the narthex on Sunday, May 9- **ONLY**. Please, no early drop-offs.
- Call the church office at 734-2977 **AHEAD OF TIME** to make arrangements for a pickup at your home on May 11 between the hours of 9 am. and noon during the recycling day.

ALLOWABLE ITEMS:

COMPUTERS & ACCESSORIES:

- Computers (Desktop & Laptop)
- Computer accessories (Mice, Keyboards, Webcams, Microphones)
- Cables & all IT accessories
- Storage devices (External hard drives, solid state drives, SD cards, memory cards, card readers, etc.)
- Computer power supplies
- Printers (Ink, toner, & cartridges)
- Gaming devices
- Network devices
- Computer peripherals
- Circuit boards/cards
- Scanners



DATA CENTER EQUIPMENT:

- Servers
- Storage arrays
- Network related equipment
- Power distribution units
- Routers and switches
- Cabling
- Switchgear
- Panelboard
- Mainframe computer equipment
- Motor generator sets
- Server racks

OFFICE EQUIPMENT:

- Copiers & Multifunction devices
- Fax machines
- Video & audio equipment
- Phone systems
- Projection equipment
- Plotters
- Security equipment
- Receivers and transmitters
- Answering machines

MOBILE DEVICES:

- Cell phones/Smart phones
- Tablets
- PDAs
- MP3 players
- Cameras

ENTERTAINMENT EQUIPMENT:

- Stereo Equipment
- Video players
- Digital cameras
- Video cameras
- Game consoles
- Accessories & cables
- DJ equipment

Stewardship Is **HEART WORK** Learning ♥ Worship ♥ Service

Stewardship of Earth is part of how we show love to God

April 25, 2018 by Minner Serovy

The [Confession of 1967](#) includes a wonderful image of the love of God:

“God has created the world of space and time to be the sphere of God’s dealings with humankind. In its beauty and vastness, sublimity and awfulness, order and disorder, the world reflects to the eye of faith the majesty and mystery of its Creator. God has endowed humans with capacities to make the world serve their needs and to enjoy its good things. Life is a gift to be received with gratitude and a task to be pursued with courage. People are free to seek life within the purpose of God: to develop and protect the resources of nature for the common welfare, to work for justice and peace in society, and in other ways to use their creative powers for the fulfillment of human life.”

It is *God’s* created world, and we have been given the privileges and responsibilities of habitation and stewardship; it is the stage on which we come to know and interact with our Creator. When I say the words, “All that we are, and all that we have, belong to God,” I can think of no clearer example than this abundant planet we share, of all that God provides us through it, and through the capabilities God has given us to increase its bounty.



Stewardship Is **HEART WORK** Learning ♥ Worship ♥ Service

Conserving Earth's bounty

Caring for the planet, its natural beauty and life-giving resources, does not suggest that we don't have faith that God could re-create it. It does not suggest that God would not protect us from our neglect. Nor does it require that one adopt any single political or scientific conclusion. Caring for the planet is the only logical response to the gift of having it at all. Caring for the planet is a model of stewardship, of being a steward; it is a tool for teaching stewardship in all areas of Christian life and to all age groups. This is not our planet. It is God's. We are not the last tenants. God's plan is for generations and generations to follow. Resources are not ours to hoard or use up. Resources are to be used or conserved for the common welfare.

The Presbyterian Foundation helps lead the PC(USA) in supporting ways to preserve God's creation and its resources. Positive investments have helped create solar farms, which can provide a consistent source of energy in areas of political conflict, in areas of natural disaster, and in places where generators and wires don't exist. [You can read about those investments here.](https://www.presbyterianfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/T_UO7.09.16.1.pdf)
(https://www.presbyterianfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/T_UO7.09.16.1.pdf)

Through the denomination's [Mission Responsibility Through Investment \(MRTI\)](https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/mrti/) (<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/mrti/>) committee we encourage companies to explore renewable and non-polluting energy sources, and through our investment advisors, we encourage consideration of environmental, social, and governance factors in selecting stocks. We partner with the [Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program](https://pilp.pcusa.org/) (<https://pilp.pcusa.org/>) to offer Restoring Creation low-interest loans for environmental improvements in local churches. The New Covenant Trust Company has created an investment solution for churches and mid councils interested in employing a fossil free investment approach.

Learning to be attentive to how we care for the gifts of our planet is a project that each generation can undertake. Taking the lessons of conservation, common welfare, generosity, values investing, and investing in the future are lessons that translate to all areas of our lives and spiritual journeys. I encourage you to learn what is being done and pick a way that you, too, might participate.

For more information about how the Presbyterian Foundation can help you or your congregation practice environmental stewardship through investing, [read this article here](https://www.presbyterianfoundation.org/faith-based-investing/) (<https://www.presbyterianfoundation.org/faith-based-investing/>) and [watch this video](https://vimeo.com/217880528) (<https://vimeo.com/217880528>). If you'd like to talk to someone about this, reach out to your Ministry Relations Officer, [which you can find here](https://www.presbyterianfoundation.org/ministry-relations-officers/) (<https://www.presbyterianfoundation.org/ministry-relations-officers/>).



Fellowship

It is with great joy that the Fellowship Committee invites you to Wednesday night dinner at 5:30 pm on June 2, 2021.

It has been fifteen months since we have been able to gather for a fellowship meal. Due to Covid restrictions we will need to do dinner a little differently than we are used to.

Please call the office at 734-2977 to make reservations and tell Gretchen how many will be in your party. Masks will still be required upon arrival at church. You may remove your masks after being escorted to your reserved seats. Fellowship Committee members will bring your meal to you.

This will be a very special meal for all those who contributed to the now successfully completed Kitchen Campaign. Please enjoy the comfort of our new seating, which was acquired during the campaign, as we once again are able to dine together.



The menu for this dinner will be: pulled pork, Jeff's baked beans, coleslaw, lemonade and chocolate chip cookies. Due to the congregation's past generosity we will not be accepting donations for this dinner.

We hope to see you there!

Fellowship Committee



Renovation house

TRANSFORMING THE LIVES OF MEN

North Presbyterian Church
921 College Ave.
Elmira, NY 14901

Dear friends and family of the Renovation House,

My hope in writing you is that you would feel my sincerest gratitude in the words of the letter that follows. For alone we've accomplished nothing. If you're receiving this letter, it is because God has used you to bless this ministry and you are a partaker of its fruit. 2021 marks my eighth year as Pastor and Director of the Renovation House. In that time, we've made many renovations to the facility in an effort to create a place where people don't just need to be, but want to be. The Lord has added, through gardens and trails, ponds, bridges, animals and most importantly, people.

We've had a lot of heart breaks along the way. We've been torn and crushed. Addiction is cruel and unmerciful, but our victories surpass any of our setbacks and have made this journey worth it. I love my position. I'm eight years deep into this; I'm still amazed that I get to be part of what God is doing here.

You gave, and people got saved
You gave, and shackles were broken, chains were shattered
You gave, and drug addicts & alcoholics became ministers of the gospel
They are out there now advancing the kingdom cause of Christ on the earth



We will continue to build • We will continue to be a place of healing • We will continue to be a place of restoration • We will continue to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness from sin and an inheritance.

The Women's Home has grown from a dream and is now a reality. It is our hope in 2021 to see it continue to grow, flourish, and stand on its own. We will continue to see drug addicts and alcoholics come in the front door and world changers exiting the back door.

Our facilities are aging and in need of constant repair, stuff wears out, things break, but we need to continue, lives are hanging in the balance.

We're beginning to see how from right here in Spencer, NY, we can literally change the world. Through disaster relief, humanitarian relief efforts, missions trips and whatever other crazy things the Lord puts our hand to, we are advancing the kingdom.

Thank you for thinking of us, thank you for standing with us

Sincerely

Rev. John P. Carley

NPC Board of Session

Session Summary

6:00 p.m., Sunday, April 19, 2021

The Clerk determined that a quorum was present.

Rev. Hansen called the meeting to order and opened the meeting with prayer.

Elder Linda Palmer led a time of devotion and Scripture reading.

The Moderator led a discussion on Chapters 1 & 2 of “Spiritual Leadership”.

Session reviewed and approved the minutes of the March 21, 2021 stated Session meeting as submitted.

The Treasurer reviewed the Financial Statements including the Profit and Loss Budget Performance for March and the Account Activity Summary for the Endowment Fund. She noted that the budget remains on track and the Endowment Fund is healthy. The Session received the report (with thanks) including monthly and year-to-date financial statements as presented.

Rev. Hansen reported that he continues to do phone visits with homebound members. Once he is fully vaccinated he plans on slowly starting in-person visits. He officiated at a funeral on April 1, 2021 for someone not affiliated with NPC.

Rev. Hansen and Elder Jeff Richards provided a reported from the March 23, 2021 Presbytery meeting.

Written reports were received from the following committees: Buildings and Grounds, Communications, Deacons, Staff Relations.

On the recommendation of the Fellowship Committee, Session approved a (free) electronics recycling day for NPC members. The event is tentatively scheduled to be held on Tuesday, May 11, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. in the NPC parking lot.

On the recommendation of the Staff Relations Committee, Session approved changes to the Employee Handbook.

By a vote of 6-2, Session approved the circulation and approval by email of the updated job description for the Organist position.

Session agreed by consent to accept the donation of 3 wood carvings.

The Session authorized the Clerk to invite Rev. Dr. Robert Edmunds to preach on Sunday, October 17, 2021.

The meeting adjourned in prayer at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Kalweit, Clerk of Session



A letter from our current Presbytery Leader, RE Susan Orr

Tending the Flock

My current read is **Decolonizing Wealth: Indigenous Wisdom to Heal Divides and Restore Balance** by Edgar Villanueva (Berrett-Koehler Publishers, 2018). It's this year's

book study selected by PC(USA) Co-Moderators Elder Elona Street-Stewart and Rev. Gregory Bentley. It's a very engaging, educational read and I *highly* recommend it. This particular passage on migratory birds struck home for me, a lesson for these days of constant change and transition (emphasis mine):

It turns out migration is no party: more birds die during migration than at any other time, from dehydration, starvation, or sheer exhaustion. When birds fly together, they cut wind for each other – all except for the one out front. That one has to bear the full force of the wind. That one has to lead forward despite the discomfort. At the same time, one of the great lessons of migrating birds is that they take turns occupying that tough position at the front, which allows for greater resilience for the whole group. By working together, a flock of birds is greater than the sum of its parts. Each creature is shifting direction, speed, and proximity based on the information of the other creatures' bodies. ***The lesson is that thriving is not actually about the leader, it's about the whole flock.*** Everyone has the potential to lead, and leadership is about listening and being attuned to everyone else. It's about flexibility. It's about humility. It's about trust. It's about having fun along the way.

Friends, our time together is coming to a close. My last day in the virtual office is March 24th, the day after our stated presbytery meeting. I have begun attending committees for the last time and am tidying up the computer and the files for next leadership. It has been my deep honor to have served as your Presbytery Leader. Yet, as the author has beautifully stated, this Presbytery's thriving does not rest solely in the wings of the one out front. It rests in each and every one of you, members of the Presbytery of Geneva flock. I encourage you to listen to one another. Be attuned to the congregations. Be flexible and be humble. It may require you to bear the full force of the wind at times. Other times, for greater resilience, it will require you to trust the ones out front. Most importantly, ***fly together*** and be sure to have fun along the way! I have been blessed by our time with one another. I have truly enjoyed this work. This staff has been a dream team! I am grateful that, for this chapter of the Presbytery's story during these extraordinary days, we have supported and equipped congregations and leaders to be Christ in the Finger Lakes and the world. All glory and thanks be to God, from whom all blessings flow!

May

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 
2 9:30 am Worship 9:30 am Communion 	3	4 1:00 pm Mission & Outreach Meeting 6:00 pm Women's Bible Study	5 Bulletin Info Due  10:00 am Food Pantry 12:00 pm Bible Study 6:00 pm Bell Choir Practice	6 National Day of Prayer 12:00 pm Blood Drive 	7 10:00 am Food Pantry 5:15 pm AA Meeting	8
9 Mother's Day 9:30 am Worship 	10	11 4:00 pm Christian Ed Meeting 6:00 pm Women's Bible Study 7:00 pm B&G Meeting	12 Bulletin Info Due 9:30 am Finance Meeting 10:00 am Food Pantry 12:00 pm Bible Study 5:00 pm Worship & Music Meeting 6:00 pm Bell Choir Practice	13	14 10:00 am Food Pantry 5:15 pm AA Meeting	15
16 9:30 am Worship 6:00 pm Board of Session	17	18 6:00 pm Women's Bible Study	19 Bulletin Info Due 10:00 am Food Pantry 12:00 pm Bible Study 6:00 pm Bell Choir Practice	20 11:00 am Deacons' Meeting	21 10:00 am Food Pantry 5:15 AA Meeting	22
23 Pentecost 9:30 am Worship 	24	25 6:00 pm Women's Bible Study	26 Bulletin Info Due 10:00 am Food Pantry 12:00 pm Bible Study 6:00 pm Bell Choir Practice	27	28 10:00 am Food Pantry 5:15 pm AA Meeting	29
30 9:30 am Worship	31 Memorial Day Church offices closed 					
						