

# NORTH STAR

## January 2023

### Making Disciples...Making a Difference

Worship: Sunday at 9:30 am  
North Presbyterian Church  
921 College Avenue  
Elmira, NY 14901-2048  
[www.northpres.church](http://www.northpres.church)  
Phone: 607-734-2977

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Happy New Year! As we enter the new year, it is worth taking a moment to remind ourselves that we are, at times, too trusting; and that there are people who will try to take advantage of our trust. I am not writing about people who ask for help because they are hungry, without a safe home, without work, or do not have a place to get warm. We live in communities with many, many people who are in desperate need of food, clothing, shelter, and who need our help. I am instead writing about the folks who try to get our credit card information, who try to get us to give them Apple and Amazon gift cards, who try to get us to click on links that they text to us.

On one particular day in the last two months, I received two phone calls from someone claiming to be from US Customs regarding a package allegedly addressed to me that contained cash and other items. They wanted me to pay them money with my credit card to “resolve” the situation. I told them I knew it was a scam and hung up. When someone calls and tells you that they are from the IRS, Customs, and so on, it is very, very likely that it is a scam. The US government and its agencies do not call people. They mail letters or they show up in person.

Within the last week or two, someone I know got a text message claiming to be from the United States Postal Service regarding a wrongly addressed package. They clicked on the link and started answering questions until they were asked for a credit card to readdress the package. At that point, they realized that this was a scam and they immediately exited out.

We want to trust people and when someone tells us that there is a problem, such as a wrongly addressed package, we want to resolve the problem. The person trying to steal our information knows this. They also know that if we take a moment to think it over first, they probably have lost us. Thinking critically is our best defense.

For example, think back - when, if ever, has the USPS contacted you regarding a wrongly addressed package that was addressed to you? My experience is, if I incorrectly address a letter or a package, it is either miraculously delivered to the person or it is returned to me. No one contacts me about an incorrectly addressed letter or package before it is returned to the sender. Likewise, when there is insufficient postage, we often get written notification that we need to go to our post office to pay the postage due and pick up the package or letter from the US Postal Service.

Cellphones can be wonderful devices but remember they give people access to us that they would not have had before. Beware of strange text messages that ask you to click on a link. If you do not recognize the phone number of an incoming call, let it go to voicemail. If you receive an email from a person or entity that you do not recognize or know, be careful and very cautious. Do not give out credit card information, Social Security numbers, banking information, your date of birth, or other types of sensitive information to people who are reaching out to you.

Finally, if you think you have fallen for a scam, do not be afraid to talk to someone immediately. If you give out your credit card information, immediately call your credit card company. Same goes for your banking information. If you give out your date of birth and social security numbers, there are ways to check your credit reports without harming your credit. As we go into this new year, we may not be able to prevent people from trying to catch us in their scams, but we can take some reasonable steps to make it more difficult for them to do so.

Warmly in Christ,

Pastor Evan



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



Visit Our Website

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



# JUST A LITTLE *Reminder*

**If you would like to donate Chancel flowers (suggested donation of \$42), please contact Lori Lee at 607-739-3176.**

**Available Sundays for January 2023 are:**

**January 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29.**

*Please take the flowers home to enjoy after the service.*

If you are not in the sanctuary on your chosen date,

we will be in touch with you to make a plan.

## January Worship Volunteers

### Tech Booth

January 1	Steve Allison
January 8	Bill Furnas
January 15	Bill Furnas
January 22	Steve Allison
January 29	Steve Allison

### Ushers

January 1	Jerry Russell, Joe Rolls, Bob Russell
January 8	Wendy Swatling, Barb Duryea
January 15	Amanda Korfmann, Ann Motley
January 22	Tim & Cheryl Allison
January 29	Nancy Isaacs, Kate Hansen

### Communion

January 8	Linda Palmer, Wendy Swatling, Suzie Hoskins, Tim Allison, Kate Hansen
January 22	TBD

### Greeters

January 1	Ann Motley
January 8	Allie & Scott Sevey
January 15	Janice Williams
January 22	Linda Palmer
January 29	Jerry Harding

### Youth Reader

January 8	Paityn Perry
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### Counters

January 1	Annette Stevens, Jim Mosher
January 8	Janice Williams, Annette Stevens
January 15	Allison Sevey, Wendy Swatling
January 22	Phil Carpenter, Jeff Richards
January 29	Cindy & Kurt Kalweit

### Wee Worship

January 1	Deb Stamp, Payton Hoskins-Thomas
January 8	Ann Motley, Becky Kowulich
January 15	Allie & Scott Sevey
January 22	Karen Wilson, Barb Duryea
January 29	Liz Wilson, Wally Ferriter

### Worship Assistant

January 1	Suzie Hoskins
January 8	Linda Palmer
January 15	TBD
January 22	Cindy Kalweit
January 29	TBD

### Coffee Hour

January 1	Ann Motley, Glenda Solowiej
January 8	Wendy Swatling, Janice Williams
January 15	Barb Duryea, Cheryl Allison
January 22	Karen Wilson, Liz Wilson
January 29	Linda Palmer

### Youth Usher

January 1	Annalyse Ferriter
January 8	Alexii Hoskins-Thomas
January 15	David Hansen
January 22	Wally Ferriter
January 29	Paityn Perry

# Together...

## WE ARE A FAMILY



**January 1:**  
Cathy & Keith Wilcox  
Olivia, Jacob

**January 8:**  
Janice Williams

**January 15:**  
Ed & Karen Wilson  
Brenna, Ethan

**January 22:**  
Liz Wilson  
Wally, Annalyse

**January 29:**  
Hal & Donna Wolfe

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

## Our Homebound Friends

**January 1:**  
Rita Dery  
550 Wilmette Ave, #217  
Ormond Beach, FL 32174

**January 8:**  
Theresa Gublo  
456 Roe Avenue  
Elmira, NY 14901

**January 15:**  
Laurie Burdick  
608 Walnut St.  
Elmira, NY 14901

**January 22:**  
Marlene Carpentier  
501 Larchmont Rd.  
Elmira, NY 14905

**January 29:**  
Betty Carney  
74 Smith Rd.  
Millport, NY 14864



# Welcome

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.



### Weekly Prayer Chain Email

Did you know that you can pray or be  
prayed for? You are invited to let the church  
office know how you would like to be  
involved.

We are stronger together.

# CHILDREN & YOUTH



Children and Youth Ministry January 2023

Well this certainly was a jam-packed December! We started it out with a get-together on December 3<sup>rd</sup> to stuff stockings for the pantry children. We were so blessed to have families from First Pres. join us, along with our own NPC families. Our count of volunteers was about 30. We had a yummy meal of breakfast pizza, bagels, fresh fruit, juice, and coffee before we began to pack stockings. The total count for stockings this year was forty-seven, the number increasing from last year.

On the next Saturday, Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>, Pat Richards and I handed out the stockings to parents from 10 am – 1pm. It is such a blessing to see the smiles on the parents' faces and know we are alleviating a little of the stress and worry about Christmas for their children. I can't thank Barb Duryea enough for helping me sort all the gifts. I would also like to send a big thank you to everyone who donated gifts and Pat Richards, who gave up her time on a Saturday to help me hand them out.

Preparations were made for the annual Christmas eve pageant. The costumes were fitted, the manger put up and we celebrated Christmas and the coming of the Christ child. We look forward to the coming year and all the exciting things to come. May you all have a blessed New Year!!!

Blessings in Christ

Deb Stamp

Dir. of Children and Youth Ministry

**In the Beginning**

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." What was the earth like before God began His Creation on it?

In each set, determine the pattern for the letters. Write the letter that completes the pattern.  
 ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

"Now the earth was

B	K	L	I	H	A	K	O
D	M	O	K	J	C	O	Q
F							

and

C	G	L	P	U
D	J	N	R	W

and

X	W	N	G	J	A	M	Q
A	Y	P	I	L	C	P	R

was over

the surface of the

Z	W	A	J
B	A	C	M

**God Will Wipe Away Our Tears**

There will be a new heaven and a new earth.

Find and count.

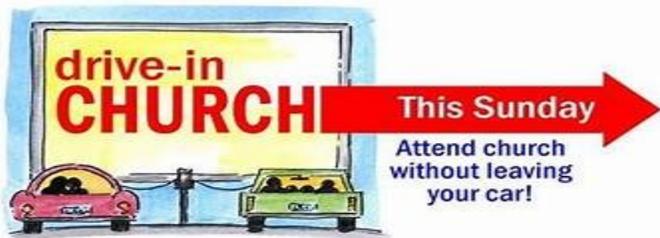
☆ 8 or 9? ☆ 5 or 6?

# Did You Know?



## COVID RULES FOR NORTH PRES

- To the extent allowed by the State of New York, masks are now optional in our building and in the sanctuary, including during worship.
- The lyrics for the praise songs and hymns will continue to be sent with the Zoom link .
- We will revisit our COVID rules as new information/mandates are received from NYS.
- Thank you all for your patience and understanding. We're all in this together!



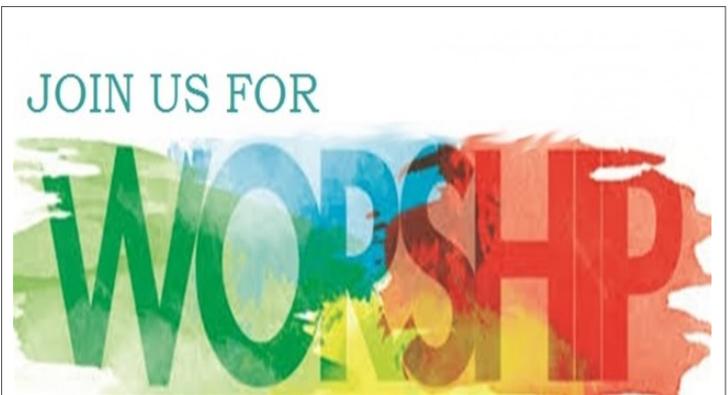
### **Parking Lot Worship:**

- Please use only the North Entrance (towards Roe Ave.)
- Please tune your radio to 1700AM.
- Please exit through the South Entrance (towards the college).



### **Zoom Worship**

- Zoom service link will be emailed each week for those who would like to participate via Zoom.



### **Sanctuary Worship:**

In order to comply with the CDC/NYS guidelines, the following COVID guidance was adopted during the February 12, 2022 Session meeting.

- **To the extent allowed by the State of New York, masks are optional in the building and the sanctuary, including during worship.**



## SHOPPING LIST

January Food Pantry

### Shopping List:

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

**Canned Soup**  
**Canned Pasta**  
**Oatmeal**

Monetary donations are also welcome.

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	mission_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



## Meet the Staff

Pastor Evan Hansen Pastor  
 Open Door Office Hours: T & W 1:30-4pm

Paul Holland Music Director

Sharon Reynolds Organist

Randy Cornell Pianist

Deb Stamp Director of Children & Youth Ministry

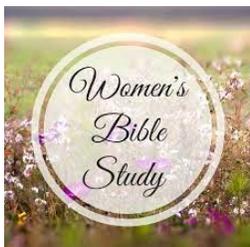
Gretchen Duffy Office Administrator

NOTICE: As CDC/NYS guidelines change, please stay tuned to our FB page & website for updates.

# Reminder

## Important Reminders:

- The church office needs your contact information. Please let us know if anything has changed.
- If you need to contact the church office for any reason, please feel free to email [office@northpres.church](mailto:office@northpres.church) or call (607) 734-2977 Tues-Fri 9am to 3:30 pm.
- Please be sure to check the bulletin or our FB page for any updates to our COVID procedure.



**Women's Bible Study**  
will resume on January 10  
and meet Tuesdays at 6:00 pm..  
For more information please contact  
Suzie Hoskins.



**Join us for  
Wednesday Noon Bible Study**  
Please feel free to bring your  
lunch!  
For more information please  
contact Bobbi Furnas.



**Men's Bible Study**  
resumes on January 5 and will  
meet on Thursdays at 6:00 pm.  
For more information please contact  
Kurt Kalweit.



Adult Sunday School is  
studying the Book of Micah.  
Please join us!



Sunday School meets  
each week after  
worship. Hope to see  
you there!



Praise Band rehearsals  
are on Wednesdays at  
7:00 pm.

The Good News  
Singers' practices are on  
Sundays at 10:45 am.



Bell Choir rehearsals are  
on Wednesdays at 6:15 pm.

Chanel Choir rehearsals  
are on Wednesdays at  
7:30 pm.





# Fellowship

Our next Fellowship Dinner will be January 11 at 5:30 pm.

Please make your reservations by calling or emailing the church office by noon on January 10.

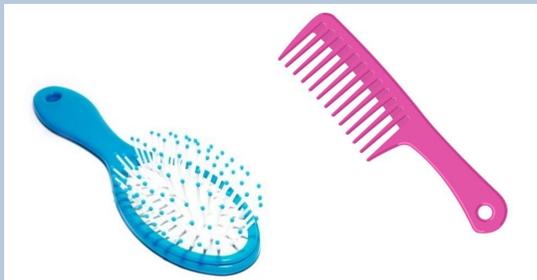
607-734-2977 or [office@northpres.church](mailto:office@northpres.church)



- Baked chicken
- Mashed potatoes
- Salad
- Dessert



**Second Place East, Inc.**



**January donation request**

**BRUSHES AND COMBS**

# From the Presbytery



November 29, 2022

When I was in seminary, I walked into the gym for a workout where I saw a classmate who was a former professional football player for the Tennessee Titans. He was talking with another classmate about specifics of weight training, to which I took an immediate interest (this was a *pro*)! He explained that while it's easier to track the value of the *big* muscles, what happens when the biceps flex and calves stretch, it's actually developing the *little* muscles that truly keep the big muscles agile, prevents injury, and supports the movements of the whole body.



It is like that for our per capita and mission giving. While there are big, missional flexes (like tech grants, and pastor retreats, and pastor support funds!) that are easier to recognize how they impact the body, none of it would be possible without the simple operational expenses of things like paying the internet bill. All of it together, bigger flexes and smaller muscles working together, all work together to create a strong, well-conditioned body that we call our regional witness as a presbytery.

The following is a (partial!) list that has *100 Things that Our Per Capita and Mission Giving Supports* to sustain the work of the presbytery: the big, the small, and everything in between. Together, they strengthen the body of our regional witness. It is important to note that the work of the church is not *transactional*, but rather *relational*. We measure the value of the church not in terms of "what we get out of it," but rather in impacts and mutual transformations on our lives and the lives of our communities.

"Per Capita is crucial to the overall health of the PC(USA), because it binds presbyteries, synods, and congregations together in one church." - J. Herbert Nelson, II, Stated Clerk of the General Assembly of the PC(USA)

"We must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knitted together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love." - Ephesians 4:15b-16

May this list serve as a GLIMPSE of the work we are accomplishing together, and which you support by your faithful giving! Thank you for building up the body of Christ!

In this together,

Rev. Ryan J. Landino  
Presbytery Leader  
Presbytery of Giddings-Lovejoy

# From the Presbytery



## 100 Things that Our Per Capita and Mission Giving Supports

1. Sustained activities, work, and programs that connect us to each other across theological, geographical, racial, and class differences so that we may continue to living out our theological tradition and roots
2. Bridging the resources of the national church to the local congregation through the presbytery leadership
3. Ensure coordination between organized teams and committees charged with conducting our regional mission
4. Resourcing to collect news of congregations' projects and events of regional interest for sharing with our congregations through the website, newsletter, and presbytery papers
5. Provide for electronic participation, hardware, and tech expertise for virtual and hybrid gatherings to broaden access to participation in the life of the presbytery
6. Provide for a point person to serve as advocate for emergency funds from the Board of Pensions and other agencies of the national church
7. Having community relations person and media correspondent in the event of a high profile incident
8. Emergency preaching and on-site response in the case of a traumatic emergency for a church
9. Ensuring sessions have a moderator when a pastor is absent so your work can continue
10. An office that keeps vital retrievable records of good standing, history, and tax exempt status
11. A weekly newsletter for regular communication with the presbytery so opportunities are not missed
12. Coaching or trouble shooting for issues that arise under the "didn't learn this in seminary" category
13. Provide for a legal advocate in court in the event that the presbytery would need to assist in representing any of our congregations
14. Provides for the programming from the Church Leadership Connection system which connects pastors with congregations and congregations with pastors
15. Provides for the creation and administration of Ordination Exams for preserving our tradition of raising qualified professional clergy
16. Travel for listening teams and Administrative Commissions to partner to assist congregations in crisis and major transition
17. Contract with licensed professionals and therapists to assess new leaders for strengths and vulnerabilities as a way to secure a healthy generation of new leaders in the church
18. Communicate, facilitate, and administer targeted grant support consistent with the emergent needs of our ministries
19. Internet access to do our work in a highspeed, 21<sup>st</sup> century ministry landscape
20. Postage for communication so we have the ability to communicate with the whole presbytery community, regardless of access to internet bandwidth
21. Honorariums for keynote speakers to inspire, educate, and encourage the work of our local ministries
22. Electronic subscriptions for programs like Zoom to allow instantaneous coordination across a geographically large presbytery, Doodle to establish available meeting times for volunteers gathering to support churches, our website for resources and blogging abilities to share testimony to our regional witness
23. Support for those organizing our annual statistics so we can track demographic changes in the church landscape and make sure our resources are aligned accordingly

# From the Presbytery



24. Matching contributions to support the training of new commissioned pastors
25. Printing official documentation such as ordination certificates, anniversary statements, and other official documentation certifying the milestones of your ministry
26. Fair compensation for a capable and responsive staff to assist pastors in the role of coach, brainstorming partner, troubleshooting challenges, or collaboration partner to presbytery members
27. Fair compensation for a capable and responsive staff to help onboard new team and committee leadership so continuity of institutional memory is preserved and resources are not lost
28. Committed staff resourcing of our Commission on Ministry and other required bodies of the presbytery for the direct interfacing with our congregations needs
29. Committed attention towards supporting the emergent needs of our commissioned pastors
30. The fair compensation for a Stated Clerk to maintain our restorative judicial channels, so that in the event of a formal complaint against a member of our community, due process is followed, the community is protected from harm, members are protected against false witness, and so we can work for accountability, justice, and restoration.
31. Supporting the professional development of our staff so they have the most up-to-date training and resourcing capabilities that your congregations deserve
32. Provide for Association of Mid Council Leaders and Association of Stated Clerks so our presbytery leadership have access to the national network of crowdsourcing, best practices, and effective policies
33. Maintaining a Stated Clerk's portal for tracking pastor, congregation, and membership status in the denomination
34. Providing for an online presbytery database with access to contact information, demographic and representation data, and volunteer service history so that we can exercise our discipleship through volunteer service beyond the local congregation.
35. Connect us to our missional partners from around the world, including a mission partner in East Africa, a region with direct ties to one of the congregations of our presbytery
36. Providing for legal fees and services to protect the interests of our congregations as incorporated entities of the state
37. Travel budget provisions for staff so that our resourcing staff have ability to travel onsite to directly interface with our congregations
38. Professional expense provisions for staff so our resourcing staff has the discretion to provide hospitality and respite for pastoral leaders in the form of meals and coffee outings to offer respite, prayer support, solidarity
39. Provide for the travel and preaching from our presbytery staff as they celebrate, accompany, and interface with our congregations
40. New Worshipping Communities support as our newer worship initiatives work to become self-sustaining
41. Missional giving to the Interfaith Partnership of Greater St. Louis to sustain our interfaith relationships and our joint witness in the most religiously pluralistic area of our presbytery
42. A Kenyan Scholarship Fund that directly provides for the education for young women and girls in East Africa, in coordination with our mission partners abroad
43. Provide for Summer Grants that provide opportunities for summer Christian Education and witness, personal growth, faith formation, and recreation to children and adults in communities of need
44. Local emergency relief for our congregations suffering disaster such as flooding
45. Emergency relief for our pastoral leaders experiencing personal hardship that encumber or direct energy away from their pastoral responsibilities

# From the Presbytery



46. To provide for matching grants in order to secure health insurance support from the Presbyterian Mission Agency for leaders of new worshipping communities in our presbytery
47. Initiatives like direct mission support for our Nicaraguan Community Partnership, and the Helping Hands Peru Partnership, a program of the Presbyterian Hunger Program, efforts coordinated by our Global Partnerships Team.
48. Initiatives for providing pastoral care of pastoral leaders, honorably retired, specialized ministry, including cohort learning communities, and events around congregational stewardship and youth education through our Dynamic Leaders Team.
49. Banking services and consulting that manage the investments of the presbytery community as a practice of good stewardship
50. Providing for the accounting of the resources of the presbytery community with a reliable outsourced firm as a practice of good stewardship
51. Maintain appropriate technology and basic office supply resources to provide for the needs of the staff
52. Having available staff on hand to direct questions, concerns, or issues affecting the life of your congregation to the correct place to deal with it constructively
53. Supporting the new pastor pipeline through supporting the Committee on Preparation for Ministry
54. Having support grants for pastors through the Commission on Ministry
55. Provide for hospitality for gatherings, trainings, and other events as an expression of community
56. Support programs like our “In the Neighborhood” event, where we relocate the office to a corner of the presbytery, and have appreciation meals with elders, clerks of sessions, and pastors so we can build relationship and update each other on available resourcing.
57. Managing the presbytery’s resources, which includes processing payroll and other expenses for new worshipping communities as they build their own infrastructures
58. Running presbytery to presbytery background checks for the protection of our presbytery community
59. Running criminal background checks for the protection of our presbytery community
60. Tech support assistance for gathering sites serving as central meeting spaces across the presbytery for mission coordination
61. Having an assigned point-person to make it easier to receive the resources of the different agencies of the national church including, the Board of Pensions, Office of General Assembly, Presbyterian Investments and Loan Program, Presbyterian Foundation, Presbyterian Mission Agency, including the offices of PCUSA Special Offerings, Racial Equity & Women’s Intercultural Ministries, the Office of Public Witness, the Self Development of People Program (our national response to the issue of poverty in our country), and the Office of Immigration Issues
62. A central space to connect with colleagues to address contemporary ministry challenges, ie: pandemic response, new models of electronic worship, technology in worship, etc
63. Offering of technology grants for enhancing, expanding, and enriching the experience of worship in our congregations
64. Confirming good standing for minister members seeking new calls in order to affirm the discernment of a good fit for ministry candidates
65. Supporting triennium for the young people of the church and their faith formation
66. Strengthening the regional witness of the synod through programs like the Swanigan scholars program which provides opportunities for women and men of color to obtain executive leadership experience or education at no cost to them, a project that is rooted in our presbytery
67. Supporting the Synod’s transitional ministry training, which is a nationally respected offering that is usually hosted at the Mercy Center in St. Louis.

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# From the Presbytery



68. Pay for yearly required boundary training for our pastors to foster a culture of protection and accountability throughout the presbytery.
69. Honorarium support to guest speakers and trainers from beyond our presbytery for things like treasurer training
70. Assuring that the day-to-day operations of a five-staff organization of approximately 10,000 people are being well-served, as well as the care of the staff
71. Provide training, gifts, and encouragement to our General Assembly commissioners providing voice in the shaping of the denomination on the national level
72. Training on the curation of our history through the History Team so the continuing unfolding story of God's work in us is maintained for current and future generations
73. Sustaining the operations of the Presbyterian Historical Society, which collects historical records of congregations and the story of how the church has remained faithful through the centuries for current and future generations.
74. Support the national church's work in drafting a study guide for GA-approved paper on denouncing antisemitism and Islamophobia
75. Provide for the resources from the FBI for Parents and Church Staff Who Work with Minors through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
76. Pay for annual Moderator Training event for our volunteer moderators so we can conduct the business of our regional witness
77. Support the Presbyterian office at the United Nations so we have access to world leaders through the Office of Public Witness
78. Advocate for humane immigration policy through the Office of Public Witness and Office of Immigration Issues
79. Ensure equal access to the decision-making table of the General Assembly, so regardless of wealth or church size, we have representational standing in the shaping of our denomination
80. Support the fair compensation of national staff who work to make sure that standing committees, special committees, taskforces, and other bodies are fairly represented by volunteer membership that reflects the diversity of the church
81. Support the fair compensation for qualified national staff who provide direct resourcing to standing groups such as: Advisory Committee on the Constitution, Advocacy Committee for LGBTQIA+ Equity, Advocacy Committee for Women and Gender Justice, Educator Certification Committee, Mission Development Resources Committee, Racial Equity Advocacy Committee, etc.
82. Support the existence of conferences like the "Unforced Rhythms of Grace" event as part of the Association of Partners in Christian Education (APCE) annual gathering through the Office of Christian Formation
83. Publishing resources for proposed amendments to the *Book of Order* as we live out our call, "Once Reformed, Always Reformed, according to the Word of God"
84. Fund the work of General Assembly approved taskforces such as: *the Special Committee on PC(USA) and Race*, *the Special Committee to Write a New Confession*, and *the Task Force to Explore the Theology and Practice of Ordination* so we can live more faithfully into our calling
85. Provide for the travel expenses of our denominational leaders so we may model our tradition of connectionalism and recognize the impact of the work of the national church on the local level
86. Promote resources for things like Homelessness Awareness Week, through books available through PC(USA) Store
87. Support the Presbyterian Older Adult Ministries Leadership Retreat
88. Support the Evangelism Conference through the work of the Office of Theology, Formation, and Evangelism

# From the Presbytery



89. Promoting resources on healing and justice from the Presbyterian Publishing Corporation
90. Providing for the editing, printing, and distribution of our latest *Book of Order* and *Book of Confessions*, so our processes for inclusion are transparent and accessible to all to be able to participate in the life of the Church
91. Provide for translations services for the resources of our denomination to Spanish and Korean
92. An online workshop provided by the Office of General Assembly for a presbytery's clerks of session on parliamentary procedure
93. Orientation for new mid council leaders serving presbyteries and synods
94. Support for Presbytery Leader Formation, and ongoing program for strengthening the leadership capacity of ongoing presbytery leaders past their orientation
95. Provide for Student Loan Advising for individuals with student loan debt who have worked at a nonprofit organizations who may be eligible for Public Service Loan Forgiveness, including debt advising and document preparation for all PC(USA) leaders, with webinars for anyone with student loan debt.
96. Resources and support for presbyteries and their elected leadership from the synod, through advice, funding, training and equipping, consultation, mediation, process support, and leadership gatherings.
97. Supporting, promoting and/or leading cross-presbytery initiatives through the synod, such as the synod's contribution to the financial implications to the *Apology to African Americans for the Sin of Slavery and Its Legacy* overture that came from our presbytery
98. Strengthen a consistent, cohesive system of participation across presbyteries, states, and synods, so that as pastors changes and pages of a congregation's story turn, we can continue to incorporate the wisdom and leadership of those from beyond our organizational structure in ways that preserve continuity and organizational fluidity
99. Practice the model set forth by Paul of collecting an offering across multiple churches for the support of the body (*1 Corinthians 16:1-4, 2 Corinthians 8:13-15,19-20, Romans 15:14-32*)
100. Foster connections amongst our regional churches, as Paul did with all the letters he sent that would become part of the New Testament cannon. Someone would have needed to pay the postage on those letters! Financial giving across a region has been part of our faithful witness since the beginning



# STEWARDSHIP

*Managing God's Gifts To Us*

Dear Friends –

As our 2023 Stewardship Campaign closes, the Finance Committee sends you our deepest thanks and appreciation for your participation. Without your commitment to North Church, we would not be able to provide programs and services to our members and the community both near and far. Your contributions of time, talents, and resources share the love of Christ.

Our North Church family is generous and compassionate. We wish you every blessing during this holy season and in the year ahead.

Finance/Stewardship Committee

*Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.*

Colossians 3:12-17 NIV

STEWARDSHIP  
*A Way of Life*



# BORDER BUDDIES MINISTRIES

Bringing the heart of Christ to the heart of Honduras.

  
 REPÚBLICA DE HONDURAS  
 SECRETARÍA DE EDUCACIÓN  
 SUBSECRETARÍA DE ASUNTOS TÉCNICO PEDAGÓGICOS  
 DIRECCIÓN GENERAL DE CURRÍCULO Y EVALUACIÓN  
 DIRECCIÓN DEPARTAMENTAL DE EDUCACIÓN DE FRANCISCO MORAZÁN  
**CERTIFICADO DE ESTUDIOS**  
**PROMOCIÓN PROFESOR "ROBERTO ARMANDO ORDOÑEZ FLORES"**

No. Identidad: **9891261219137**  
 Nombre del Alumno: **ELIEZER DANIEL PERA PEREZ**  
 Modalidad: **NO APLICA**  
 Grado: **QUINTO GRADO**  
 Jornada: **JORNADA MATUTINA**  
 Sección: **1**  
 Centro Educativo: **(989100258B10) - FUERZAS ARMADAS**  
 Ciclo al que Perteneca: **II CICLO DE EDUCACIÓN BÁSICA**

**DISTRITO CENTRAL** Aldea      **DISTRITO CENTRAL** Municipio      **FRANCISCO MORAZÁN** Departamento

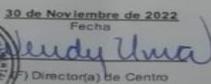
PERSONALIDAD			
Puntualidad:	Sobresaliente	Espíritu de trabajo:	Sobresaliente
Orden y presentación:	Sobresaliente	Sociabilidad:	Sobresaliente
Moralidad:	Sobresaliente		

APROVECHAMIENTO			
ÁREAS CURRICULARES	CAMPOS DEL CONOCIMIENTO	PROMEDIOS	OBSERVACIONES
COMUNICACIÓN	EDUCACIÓN ARTÍSTICA (COMUNICACIÓN)	97%	EXCELENTE
	ESPAÑOL (COMUNICACIÓN)	98%	EXCELENTE
	INGLÉS (COMUNICACIÓN)	97%	EXCELENTE
MATEMÁTICAS		88%	AVANZADO
CIENCIAS NATURALES		96%	EXCELENTE
CIENCIAS SOCIALES	EDUCACIÓN CÍVICA (CC.SS)	98%	EXCELENTE
	ESTUDIOS SOCIALES (CC.SS)	98%	EXCELENTE
EDUCACIÓN FÍSICA Y DEPORTES		99%	EXCELENTE

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INDICE DE PROMOCIÓN: **96 %**      Días faltados en el año: **0**

Vista las calificaciones anteriores: **SI** será promovido(a) al siguiente grado.

30 de Noviembre de 2022  
 Fecha  
  
 (F) Director(a) de Centro




Scores of 1-69	Failing
Scores of 70-80	Good
Scores of 81-89	Very Good
Scores of 91-100	Excellent

Parciales = I, II, III, IV	Partial = I, II, III, IV
Promedio Anual por Área	Annual average by area
Puntualidad	Punctuality
Espíritu de Trabajo	Work Spirit
Orden y Presentación	Order and Presentation
Sociabilidades	Sociabilities
Moralidad	Moralities

ND	Not Assigned
S	Excellent
MB	Very Good
B	Good

1	Needs to improve or not satisfactory
2	Good
3	Very Good
4	Excellent

### For 1<sup>st</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> grade students

Rendimiento académico	Academic performance
Educación Artística	Art
Español	Spanish
Inglés	English
Matemáticas	Math
Ciencias Naturales	Natural Science
Educación Cívica	Civic Education
Estudios Sociales	Social Studies
Educación Física y Deportes	Gym
Tecnología	Computer and Crafts
Inasistencias	Missing days

  
 REPÚBLICA DE HONDURAS  
 SECRETARÍA DE EDUCACIÓN  
 SUBSECRETARÍA DE ASUNTOS TÉCNICO PEDAGÓGICOS  
 DIRECCIÓN GENERAL DE CURRÍCULO Y EVALUACIÓN  
 DIRECCIÓN DEPARTAMENTAL DE EDUCACIÓN DE FRANCISCO MORAZÁN  
**CERTIFICADO DE ESTUDIOS**  
**PROMOCIÓN PROFESOR "ROBERTO ARMANDO ORDOÑEZ FLORES"**

No. Identidad: **0891201416406**  
 Nombre del Alumno: **JEFERSON AARON CRUZ ALVAREZ**  
 Modalidad: **NO APLICA**  
 Grado: **SEGUNDO GRADO**  
 Jornada: **JORNADA MATUTINA**  
 Sección: **1**  
 Centro Educativo: **(989100258B10) - FUERZAS ARMADAS**  
 Ciclo al que Perteneca: **I CICLO DE EDUCACIÓN BÁSICA**

**DISTRITO CENTRAL** Aldea      **DISTRITO CENTRAL** Municipio      **FRANCISCO MORAZÁN** Departamento

PERSONALIDAD			
Puntualidad:	Muy Bueno	Espíritu de trabajo:	Muy Bueno
Orden y presentación:	Muy Bueno	Sociabilidad:	Muy Bueno
Moralidad:	Muy Bueno		

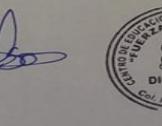
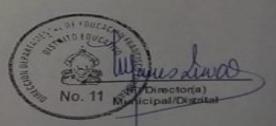
APROVECHAMIENTO			
ÁREAS CURRICULARES	CAMPOS DEL CONOCIMIENTO	PROMEDIOS	OBSERVACIONES
COMUNICACIÓN	EDUCACIÓN ARTÍSTICA (COMUNICACIÓN)	95%	EXCELENTE
	ESPAÑOL (COMUNICACIÓN)	97%	EXCELENTE
	INGLÉS (COMUNICACIÓN)	98%	EXCELENTE
MATEMÁTICAS		97%	EXCELENTE
CIENCIAS NATURALES		99%	EXCELENTE
CIENCIAS SOCIALES	EDUCACIÓN CÍVICA (CC.SS)	99%	EXCELENTE
	ESTUDIOS SOCIALES (CC.SS)	97%	EXCELENTE
EDUCACIÓN FÍSICA Y DEPORTES		100%	EXCELENTE

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INDICE DE PROMOCIÓN: **98 %**      Días faltados en el año: **0**

Vista las calificaciones anteriores: **SI** será promovido(a) al siguiente grado.

30 de Noviembre de 2022  
 Fecha  
  
 (F) Director(a) de Centro

# Renovation house

SPENCER

North Presbyterian Church  
921 College Ave.  
Elmira, NY 14901

Greetings Friends and Family,

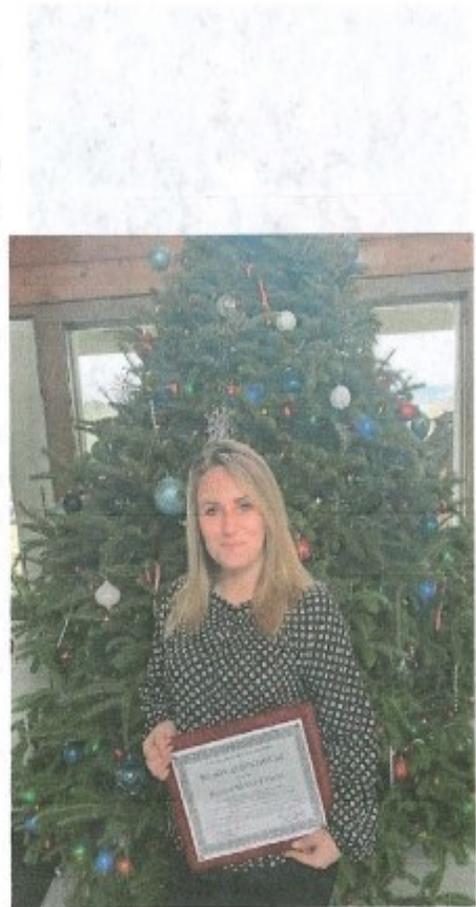
Thought I would take a few moments to share with you some of our highlights from the year.

## Student Highlight "Brandi Nicole Tiffany"

"The Lord takes the solitude and puts them into a family." From homelessness and addiction to freedom and a family. Brandi has become like a daughter to us. Though her program is nearly complete, she plans to remain as an intern and hopes for college in Fall of 2023.

We are Godly proud of Brandi and look forward to Gods best plans for her life.

"Be careful out there... she's getting her license."



## Alumni Highlight "Angel Zayas"



Angel is amazing.

Nearly 5 years ago, Angel came to us broken and estranged from his wife and family.

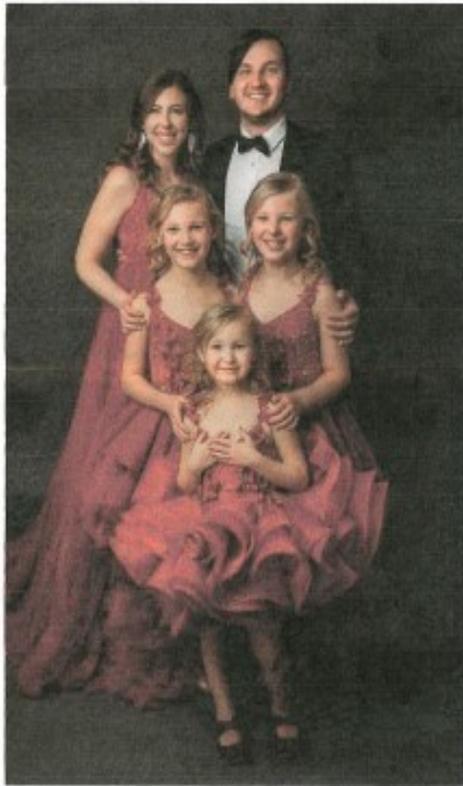
Today he is flourishing in life and ministry. He visits often ministering in the word, in haircuts and amazing food. He is a right hand to his Pastor and a Pillar in his Church and community.

Congratulations Angel, Our Alumni of the Year!!

# Renovation house

SPENCER

## Staff Highlight "Judah & Elyse" Domestic missionaries



"My family and I have served at the Renovation House for the last four years. It took a lot of faith to step into God's plans for us four years ago. We had to sell a house, I quit my job, and saw friends and family less. But God was in every step and moment. In these last four years we have seen so many lives freed from addiction, past hurts, and brokenness. We have seen the restoration and redeeming power of God fully working in the men and women of the Renovation House. There truly is nothing like witnessing the transformation of a person taken from darkness and brought into light. It is not an easy process, and there has been heartbreak mixed in amongst the victory, but it just makes the victory that much sweeter. It has been a pleasure and an honor for my family and I to serve here at the Renovation House and we plan to stay here and minister as long as God wills. Thank you for your prayers and support over the years." – Rev Judah Baker

From the best Italian meatballs to mentoring and teaching Diane works to keep her brother's vision for renovation house moving forward. Once a month with a few extras in between she travels from her home and family to serve at the Renovation House. We all, staff and student alike look forward to Diane's weekends, she is a bright spot in this ministry as well as in all of our lives.

Our wealth is measured in the lives of those we are called to serve and serve with. In that we are abundantly Blessed!! Thank you for praying and partnering with us, you have a piece of what God is doing here in the lives of men and women. Blessings and Merry Christmas!!

Rev Dr. John P Earley



Teacher Highlight "Diane Arminio"  
Our teacher of the year!



**Wednesday**  
— NIGHT —  
**DINNERS**  
Food • Family • Fellowship  
**January 11 at 5:30 pm**

**Our Church office will be closed  
on January 2, 2023**

**Happy New Year**  
**2023**

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**  
**January 16, 2023**

Hatred paralyzes life;  
love releases it.  
Hatred confuses life;  
love harmonizes it.  
Hatred darkens life;  
love illuminates it.

Martin Luther King Jr.



THE THURSDAY MORNING  
**MUSICALES**  
OF ELMIRA, NEW YORK

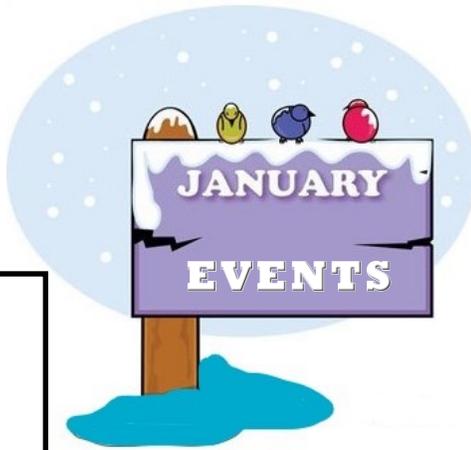
Thursday Morning Musicales  
will perform on  
January 19, 2023 at 10:15 am.

**NewsLetter**

Information to be included  
in the February North Star  
Newsletter is due to the  
Church Office by  
Tuesday, January 24.

January 16  
Presbytery Disaster  
Kit Assembly  
and Lunch  
beginning at  
10:00 am.

**EMERGENCY  
KIT**



ANNUAL  
CONGREGATIONAL  
**MEETING**

will be in the sanctuary  
January 22, 2023  
immediately following  
worship. There will be a  
dish to pass luncheon to  
follow.



Annual Reports from  
Committee Chairs are  
due to the church  
office by January 10.  
Please drop them off  
or email them to  
[office@northpres.church](mailto:office@northpres.church).



Our local chapter of  
TOPS meets on  
Mondays at 5:30 in  
Willits Hall. If you're  
interested, please call  
the church office for  
information.



**American Red Cross  
BLOOD DRIVE**

Give Blood • Give Life

There will be a Red Cross Blood  
Drive on January 5 starting at  
noon. If you're interested in  
signing up to give blood, please  
visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) or call  
1-800 RED CROSS.



Yoga meets Tuesday and  
Thursday mornings at 8:45 in  
Willits Hall. If you're interested,  
please contact the church office  
for more information.

Board of Session  
January 15  
6:00 pm



Our next Work Day  
will be January 14.  
Please join us!



Kindermusik meets on Tuesdays  
at 3 pm and Thursdays at  
10 am and 5:15 pm.  
For information on how your  
child can participate, please  
contact the church office.

# NPC Board of Session

## Session Summary

December 18, 2022

The Clerk determined that a quorum was present.

Rev. Hansen called the meeting to order, and the meeting was opened with devotions and prayer led by Tim Allison.

The agenda was approved as amended.

The minutes of the November 20, 2022 stated Session meeting were reviewed and approved as submitted.

Session reviewed the Financial Statements including the Profit and Loss Budget Performance for November and the Account Activity Summary for the Endowment Fund. Endowment Fund income for November was \$45,430. The Treasurer's report was received, with thanks, by the Session.

Session approved \$3,444.00 for Presbytery, Synod, General Assembly Mission for 2023.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee, Session approved a 4.5% salary increase for the staff effective January 1, 2023.

Pat Richards reported that pledges are down for 2023. This could be due to outstanding pledges and/or a decrease in pledging units. A reminder will go out to the congregation.

Session approved the 2023 budget (with amendments to Mission) with the stipulation that the Treasurer be allowed to modify Pledge Income and Endowment Fund Transfers as needed (as more pledges are received) prior to submission of the 2023 for the annual report.

# NPC Board of Session

Pat Richards reported that a check in the amount of \$1,500 was received from the Panosian Family Foundation. Following a lengthy discussion, Session approved the division of the proceeds amongst local organizations working to address food insecurity in our community. The division of the funds was TABLED until the January 15, 2023 Session meeting.

On the recommendation of the Nominating Committee, Session approved the one-year appointment of the Treasurer (Patricia Richards) and the Clerk of Session (Cindy Kalweit).

Pastor Hansen reported that it has been a busy month. Preparation for Christmas Eve worship services is complete. He continues to make phone calls to housebound members and is making in-person visits to those in the hospital. Staff reviews will be completed by the end of 2022 or early 2023.

Session created an ad-hoc committee to determine the best use of space for the classroom/office space within the NPC facility. The committee members are: Linda Palmer, Steve Allison, Pat Richards, and Gretchen Duffy (Church Administrator)

A discussion on Chapters 17-19 from “God, Improv, and the Art of Living” was led by Rev. Hansen.

The meeting adjourned in prayer at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cindy Kalweit,  
Clerk of Session



# JANUARY



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1 New Year's Day</p> <p>9:30 am -Worship Service 10:30am-Coffee Hour</p>	<p>2</p> <p>5:30 pm -TOPS Church offices closed</p>	<p>3</p> <p>8:45 am -Yoga 9:00 am -Staff Relations Mtg 1:30 pm -Pastor's Office Hours 3:00 pm - Kindermusik</p>	<p>4 Bulletin Info Due</p> <p>10:00 am -Food Pantry 12:00 pm -Bible Study 1:30-4:00 pm -Pastor's Office Hours 6:15 pm-Bell Choir 7:00 pm-Praise Band 7:30 pm -Chancel Choir</p>	<p>5</p> <p>8:45 am -Yoga 10:00 am -Kindermusik 12:00 pm -Blood drive 5:15 pm - Kindermusik 6:00 pm - Men's Bible Study</p> 	<p>6</p> <p>10:00 am -Food Pantry 5:15 pm -AA</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9:30am -Worship Service 9:30am -Communion 10:30am-Coffee Hour 10:45 am-Good news Singers' Practice 11:00 am-Sunday School</p> 	<p>9</p> <p>5:30 pm -TOPS</p>	<p>10 Annual Reports Due</p> <p>8:45 am -Yoga 10:00 am -Comm &amp; Tech Mtg 1:30 pm -Pastor's Office Hours 3:00 pm - Kindermusik 6:00 pm - Women's Bible Study 7:00 pm - Buildings &amp; Grounds Mtg</p>	<p>11 Bulletin Info Due</p> <p>10:00 am -Food Pantry 12:00 pm -Bible Study 1:30-4:00 pm -Pastor's Office Hours 3:00 pm -Worship &amp; Music Mtg 6:15 pm-Bell Choir 7:00 pm-Praise Band 7:30 pm -Chancel Choir</p>	<p>12</p> <p>8:45 am -Yoga 10:00 am -Kindermusik 1:00 pm -Mission &amp; Outreach Mtg 5:15 pm - Kindermusik 6:00 pm - Men's Bible Study</p>	<p>13</p> <p>10:00 am -Food Pantry 5:15 pm -AA</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8:00 am Saturday Breakfast Saturday Workday</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9:30 am -Worship Service 10:30am-Coffee Hour 10:45 am-Good news Singers' Practice 11:00 am-Sunday School 6:00 pm Board of Session</p> 	<p>16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</p> <p>10:00 am - Presbytery Disaster Kit assembly and Lunch 5:30 pm -TOPS</p>	<p>17</p> <p>8:45 am -Yoga 1:30 pm -Pastor's Office Hours 3:00 pm - Kindermusik 6:00 pm - Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>18 Bulletin Info Due</p> <p>10:00 am -Food Pantry 12:00 pm -Bible Study 1:30-4:00 pm -Pastor's Office Hours 4:00 pm-Christian Ed Meeting 6:15pm-Bell Choir 7:00 pm-Praise Band 7:30 pm -Chancel Choir</p>	<p>19</p> <p>8:45 am -Yoga 9:00 am -Thursday Morning Musicales 10:00 am -Kindermusik 11:00 am -Deacons' Mtg 5:15 pm - Kindermusik 6:00 pm - Men's Bible Study</p>	<p>20</p> <p>10:00 am -Food Pantry 5:15 pm -AA</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:30 am -Worship Service 9:30 am -Communion Annual Meeting followed by Dish to pass luncheon</p> 	<p>23</p> <p>5:30 pm -TOPS</p>	<p>24 Newsletter Info Due</p> <p>8:45 am -Yoga 1:30 pm -Pastor's Office Hours 3:00 pm - Kindermusik 6:00 pm - Women's Bible Study</p> 	<p>25 Bulletin Info Due</p> <p>10:00 am -Food Pantry 12:00 pm -Bible Study 1:30-4:00 pm -Pastor's Office Hours 6:15 pm-Bell Choir 7:00 pm-Praise Band 7:30 pm -Chancel Choir</p>	<p>26</p> <p>8:45 am -Yoga 10:00 am -Kindermusik 5:15 pm - Kindermusik 6:00 pm - Men's Bible Study</p>	<p>27</p> <p>10:00 am - Food Pantry 5:15 pm -AA</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9:30 am -Worship Service 10:30am-Coffee Hour 10:45 am-Good news Singers' Practice 11:00 am - Sunday School</p>	<p>30</p> <p>5:30 pm -TOPS</p>	<p>31</p> <p>8:45 am -Yoga 1:30 pm Pastor's Office Hours 3:00 pm - Kindermusik 6:00 pm - Women's Bible Study</p>				