

# Highlights and Happenings

November/December 2019

## First Presbyterian Church of Northport Newsletter

*I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. Philippians 1:6*

### ***From Pastor Rachel,***

Dear Members & Friends of the First Presbyterian Church of Northport,

As we are about to turn the calendar to the month of November, I wanted to highlight a few of the upcoming events in the life and ministry of our wonderful church.

First: a reminder that Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> is All Saints' Sunday when we will read the names of the saints who have entered the Church Triumphant within the past twelve months.

November 3<sup>rd</sup> is also the day that we set our clocks back one hour, which means everyone should be on time for worship that day!

We began our 2020 Stewardship Campaign: *Making a Difference*, on Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup> with a Minute for Stewardship at the beginning of the worship service. The campaign will continue in November with Pledge Dedication Sunday taking place on November 17<sup>th</sup>. This is always a very moving service as members of the body of Christ come forward to dedicate their gifts to the mission of his church. We will also welcome new members into our community of faith that day.

The month of December begins the season of Advent. Although December often seems like an endless cycle of events and parties, the church's season is about waiting for something new. Advent means "coming," and as we prepare ourselves in Advent for Jesus' arrival, we learn what it means to wait for God's new thing.

At FPC this December we will celebrate the season of Advent beginning on Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup> when we will light the first candle on the Advent Wreath to signal the coming light of Christ. On Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> our Sunday school children will again tell us the Christmas story in the annual Christmas Pageant, held during the worship service. On Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> our Chancel Choir will lead us in a service of Lessons & Carols.

On Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> there will be two worship services. The 4:30 PM service will feature our Carol & Westminster Choirs leading in worship. The 8:00 PM service is a traditional Candlelight service featuring special music and communion.

As you can see...there is a lot going on in the life and ministry of our vibrant congregation. God's Spirit is indeed alive and well in our lives and in this place! I hope that you will join me in worship as we give thanks for all that God is doing among us!

With much joy is serving as your interim pastor,



Regular Worship 10:00 A.M. (Worship/Communion for all ages: First Sunday of each month)

## DEACONS PRAYER MINISTRY CONTINUES

The deacons prayer ministry which continues on the first Sunday of the month. If you would like to have someone pray with you or for someone who is in need, please join us in the Chapel following worship on November 3rd and December 1st.



Presbyterian  
Women



**The next PW Book Discussion** will cover “The Silent Patient” by Alex Michaelides. The talk will be held at the home of Leah Fink on Wed. Nov. 20th at 7 pm. We will have a meeting also at that time to discuss the Presbyterian Women’s Christmas Dinner (Hartt Room Dec. 9th,) as well as PW’s Christmastime adoption of YDA families. All are welcome. Even if you have not had a chance to read the book, come for the fellowship of women in our church!

**All women of the church are invited to attend.**



*Sounds  
of the  
Season*

**PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN’S  
CHRISTMAS  
DINNER  
MONDAY,  
DECEMBER 9TH  
AT 6:00 PM  
IN THE  
HARTT ROOM**



## Presbyterian Women's Ministry Notes



The annual  
**PW Social Events Sale**  
is almost here!

Sunday, November 17th after worship  
in the Hartt Room.

Please consider hosting an event -  
or coming to one being offered.

This is PW's only fundraiser and all monies raised  
go directly to mission needs around the world.

The deadline for submitting an offering  
is November 1st.

Call Diana or Leah.



*Christmas Poinsettia &  
Wreath Sign-ups begin  
on  
Sunday, December 1st  
in the Hartt Room after worship.*





### SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS:

We've had a great start this fall, getting back into Bible stories and seeing our Sunday School friends! Pre-school and elementary children have discovered some amazing things that went on in the Old Testament! We'll continue learning about some important people in God's history. Mid High students are having animated discussion about questions around religion and Christianity. It's so exciting to have children engaged in God's Word and thinking about how biblical concepts relate to their lives.

Preschool through 8th grade students start worship with their families and then go upstairs together after the Children's Message & Prayer. High school students go directly to the youth space downstairs in Fellowship Hall at the start of worship.

Christmas Pageant preparations are underway! Sign ups for parts are happening now and rehearsals will begin during Sunday School on November 24th. See the calendar below for important dates. Every year we anticipate this telling of the Christmas story by the children of the church. A truly special time for our congregation!

### November/December Sunday School Schedule

November 3 – Family Worship/Communion Sunday/Second Grade Bible Sunday–  
no Sunday School classes

November 10 – Family Worship/School Break, No Sunday School Classes

November 17 – Sunday School Classes

November 24 – Sunday School - first Pageant rehearsal

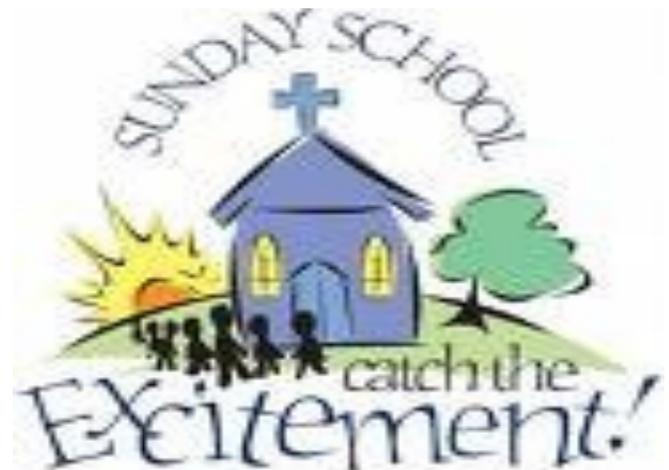
December 1 - – Family Worship/Communion Sunday/School Break, No Sunday School

December 8 – Sunday School, Pageant rehearsal

\*Saturday, December 14 – Pageant rehearsal and pizza lunch, 9:00 - 12:00

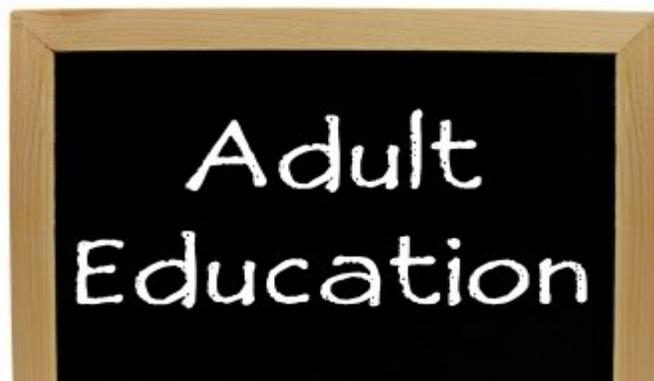
December 15 – Christmas Pageant during worship

December 22, 29 - Family Worship/School Break



# Burn the Mortgage

Thank you to all who have pledged to the  
2019 Burn the Mortgage Campaign.  
Thanks to your generosity we anticipate  
retiring our debt at the end of 2019.  
Look for details about a "Burn the Mortgage"  
celebration in early 2020!



Please join Sunday AM Adult Education  
for a four part Advent Study called  
"The Light of the World".

We will explore the biblical texts surrounding the story of the birth of Jesus.

We will meet November 10th, November 17th, November 24th,  
and December 8th. (No class Thanksgiving weekend).

We will meet in the library at 9AM--(Coffee at 8:45 AM)



On Monday, Dec. 2nd, Mission Ministries will be serving dinner to homeless HIHI guests spending the night at St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Huntington. Helpers are needed to prepare the dinner or to purchase breakfast & dessert items. Other

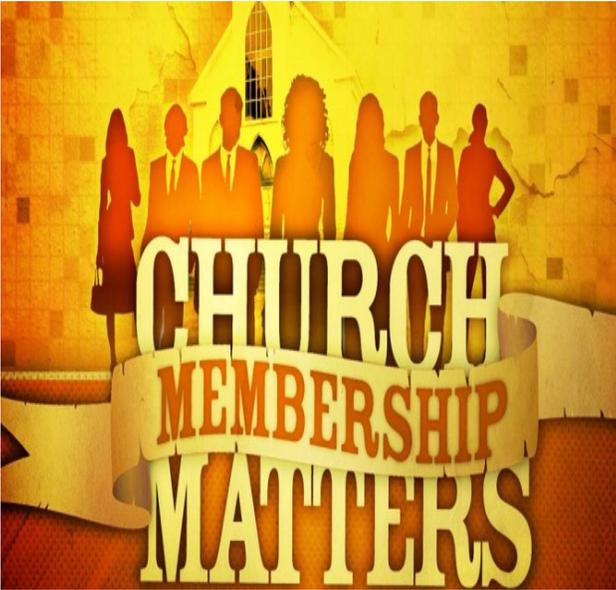
volunteers are needed to serve the meal and do the clean up afterwards. We especially need a volunteer to drive the prepared food to the church. If you are interested in participating, sign up sheets will be provided starting this Sunday in the Hartt through Sunday, November 24th. For further information E mail [zorra2@optonline.net](mailto:zorra2@optonline.net)

**OUTREACH**



Each Sunday in November, Mission Ministries is sponsoring a "sock, gloves and hats" drive to collect needed outerwear for homeless men staying at HIHI locations starting on December 2nd. If you would like to contribute to this effort, boxes will be made available at the rear entrance of the church during the week during the month of November. Socks are particularly needed. Your help is greatly appreciated.

## Fall New Members Class



There will be a New Members Class on Wednesday, November 13th at 6:30 PM in the Library. Anyone who is interested in joining the church or in finding out more information about becoming a member of FPC is invited to attend the class. Those wishing to join will be welcomed into membership on Sunday, November 17th during the worship service. Please RSVP to Pastor Rachel at [rvione@fpcnorthport.org](mailto:rvione@fpcnorthport.org) if you would like to attend the class.

### ANNUAL COMMUNITY WIDE THANKSGIVING WORSHIP

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24TH  
AT 7:00 PM

ST. HUGH'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH  
12 EAST 9TH STREET  
HUNTINGTON STATION

*"I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me." Matthew 25:35*



**Thank You, LORD!**

## Musical Notes

It has been a busy fall for our music groups. Thank you for your support of our Carol, Westminster, and Chancel Choirs. Please know that there is room for you or your child in our choirs. The social and spiritual component cannot be minimized as we have the opportunity to fellowship and make music together.

Our Advent-Christmas music will include a combined choir selection in early December, participation with the Sunday School pageant, a Lessons and Carols Sunday morning service, our Pre-service Christmas Eve music in addition to our two Christmas Eve services. It is likely that we will engage a brass musician for the 8:00 pm service.

With the support of the Worship Committee, the pianos will be tuned in November and the Moller-Elsener organ will be tuned in December.

In addition to the exciting work at First Presbyterian Church, I have had the opportunity to perform some volunteer work as the Registrar for the Suffolk Chapter of the American Guild of Organists (SAGO). Some of you have attended local recitals and have experienced the joy of music from these national recitalists. I traveled with the SAGO for a demonstration and opportunity to play the 1868 Erben Organ at Old St. Patrick's Cathedral in the SO-HO section of Manhattan on Columbus Day. I am pictured with their amazing Director of Music / Organist Jared Lamenzo. Please read more about his restoration mission for this New York City produced organ treasure at this website address from a recent NY Times article: <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/05/18/nyregion/jared-lamenzo-pipe-organ.html>

With songs of praises,

Dr. Brenda A. Clark

Director of Music / Colleague American Guild of Organists



## 2020 Stewardship Campaign



The 2020 Stewardship Campaign: *Making a Difference* kicked off on Sunday, October 27 with a Minute for Stewardship by Elder and Mission Ministry Chair, Marilyn Fox. Marilyn talked about all the important ways the Mission Ministry supports both local and global missions.

The Stewardship Campaign will continue with Minutes for Stewardship given by members of our Youth Ministry, ELC Food Pantry and our Finance Ministry.

Pledge Sunday is November 17th! Please prayerfully consider what God is calling you to give to the life and ministry of FPC in 2020!

### Youth News

Welcome back everyone! We are looking forward to a year of fun, faith building and fellowship. Our first meeting was held on October 20th and the kids had some great ideas for our group this year. The energy and the enthusiasm of our youth is a blessing to this congregation. We hope all can participate in the following events:

**Nov. 17th** 12:00-2:30 Escape the Room event at Puzzle Break Escape Room in Syosset. Specific details will be outlined in the Weekly Messenger and via email. If your child is in 6th-12th grade they are welcome. We will need a head count for this event so please contact us if your child is interested in participating.

**Dec.** (specific date tbd).  
11:30-2:00 We will shop for Christmas gifts for a family through Ecumenical Lay council Adopt A Family program. After shopping we will plan to go out to lunch together.





Our year has gotten off to a fantastic start and we are getting ready for the Holiday season! We will be VERY busy in the upcoming weeks. Star Lab will be coming to Weekday on November 13<sup>th</sup> with their enormous inflatable planetarium for us to sit inside of. We will learn all about the stars and the planets all around us. We cannot wait for this fun program!

Weekday will celebrate Thanksgiving as a school on November 26<sup>th</sup>. We are so thankful for our amazing families that donate amazing foods that comprise our full Thanksgiving dinner to be shared with all Weekday students in the gym. It truly is a wonderful day full of sharing and being thankful for our friends and families.

Our entire school will take a walking field trip to the Engeman theater on December 12<sup>th</sup> to see Frosty the Snowman! We have the entire theater to ourselves, so all our students and their families can join us during this fun event. It is so fun to watch the little ones as they are immersed in the magic of Frosty!

Mrs. Claus will take the long trip from the North Pole on December 18<sup>th</sup> to visit with our students before Christmas Day. She will get to visit with each class and give us some insight into the jolly old elf. Our visits will conclude with Mrs. Claus reading The Night Before Christmas to each class.

Keeping with the true meaning of the holidays, Weekday will again be adopting local veteran families for our Thanksgiving food drive and Holiday giving tree. We are so fortunate to have such generous families at our school. We are thrilled to give back to vets in our area!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>NOVEMBER 2019</b></p> <p>3 9:00 Westminster Choir (C) 10:00 Worship Service w/communion 11:15 Prayer Ministry (C) <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Graders Receive Bibles Daylight Savings Time Ends</i></p>	<p>4 7:30 PNC (L) 7:30 Boy Scouts (FH)</p>	<p>5 Weekday Nursery Closed 7:30 Deacons Ministry (H) <i>Election Day</i></p>	<p>6 10:30 Weekday Chapel (S) 4:30 Carol Choir (S) 6:00 Congregational Dinner (FH) 7:30 Yoga Class (H)</p>	<p>7 10:00 Women's Bible Study (L) 7:30 Chancel Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>1 8:00 AI-Anon 12 Step Program (L)</p>	<p>2 8:30 Men &amp; Boys' Breakfast (FH) 9:00 – 12 Noon Church Work Day</p>
<p>10 8:45 Adult Ed (L) 10:00 Worship Service</p>	<p>11 Church Office &amp; Weekday Nursery Closed 7:30 PNC (L) <i>Veteran's Day</i></p>	<p>12 10:00 Missions Min (L) 12:30 Staff Meeting 7:00 Weekday Bd (MRU) 7:00 P &amp; M Ministry (L) 7:30 Membership Ministry (H)</p>	<p>13 10:00 Pioneers (H) 1:00 Horizons Bible Study (L) 6:30 New Members Class (L) 7:30 Yoga Class (H)</p>	<p>14 7:30 Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:30 Finance Ministry (L)</p>	<p>15 8:00 AI-Anon 12 Step Program (L)</p>	<p>16 9:00 – 12 Noon Church Work Day 9:30 Npt Yoga Class(H) 2:30 PW Set-up (H)</p>
<p>17 8:45 Adult Ed (L) 9:00 Westminster Choir (C) 10:00 Worship Service w/ Sunday School 11:15 PW Events Sale (H) <i>New Members Received Pledge Sunday</i></p>	<p>18 7:30 PNC (L) 7:30 Boy Scouts (FH)</p>	<p>19 7:30 Worship Ministry (H)</p>	<p>20 11:30 Pioneers to Ciro's for Lunch 4:30 Carol Choir (S) 7:00 Presb. Wm's Mtg. &amp; Book Disc @ Leah Fink's home 7:30 Yoga Class (H)</p>	<p>21 10:00 Women's Bible Study (L) 7:30 Chancel Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>22 8:00 AI-Anon 12 Step Program (L)</p>	<p>23 9:30 Npt Yoga Class(H)</p>
<p>24 8:45 Adult Ed (L) 9:00 Westminster Choir (C) 10:00 Worship Service w/ Sunday School 7:00 Community Thanksgiving Service – St. Hugh's Hunt. Sta.</p>	<p>25 7:30 PNC (L) 7:30 Boy Scouts (FH)</p>	<p>26 7:30 Session (H)</p>	<p>27 Weekday School Closed 7:30 Yoga Class (H)</p>	<p>28 Church Office &amp; Weekday Nursery School Closed <i>Thanksgiving Day</i></p>	<p>29 Church Office &amp; Weekday Nursery School Closed 8:00 AI-Anon 12 Step Program (L)</p>	<p>30 9:30 Npt Yoga Class (H)</p>
						<p>(H) Hart Room (S) Sanctuary (L) Library (CR) Choir Room (C) Grace Chapel (FH) Fellowship Hall (MRU) Mtg Rm Upstairs</p>

**We remember in prayer:**

**Current concerns** - Paul Schrader, Debbie Competello, Marie Baldwin, Robert & Mary Jane Hrapczynski (Anita Stambouly's cousins), Tessa Labbe (Janet Henning's granddaughter), Steve Siegmann, the Pastor Nominating Committee, Linda Best, Aaron Thomas, Bob White, Cathy Schmidt, Susan Gaughan (friend of Marilyn Barker), Art Shaw, Brian Brewer (Faustine White's son), Charlene Cosman, **the family of:** Lilian Doris Dalla (Nancy Weber's sister), Eloise Latino (former member), Edward Schneider (Barbara Kaifler's brother), Neil Barber (Greg's son), **those in Healthcare facilities – Atria:** Ann Deery, **Hilaire Rehab & Nursing:** Sandra Miller, **our partner congregations:** Nueva Paz, Cuba and Iglesia Evangelica Presbiteriana Nueva Vida, Malverne; the Presbytery of Long Island and its staff; the Synod of the Northeast, the Presbyterian Church (USA), its Louisville staff, its missionaries worldwide.



**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:**  
Tuesday - Friday  
8:30 AM to 2:30 PM

Church Office Phone: 631 - 261 - 6434

Weekday Nursery School & Child Care  
Center Phone: 631 - 757 - 1342  
Website: [www.fpcnorthport.org](http://www.fpcnorthport.org)  
E-mail: [bkaifler@fpcnorthport.org](mailto:bkaifler@fpcnorthport.org)

**First Presbyterian Church Staff**

Ministers: All the Members of the Church  
Rachel Vione, *Interim Pastor*  
Dr. Brenda Clark, *Organist & Director of Music*  
Nancy Hogan, *Carol Choir Director*  
Barbara Kaifler, *Administrative Assistant*  
John Kennedy, *Facilities Manager*  
Marge Margolf, *Music Accompanist*  
Kevin McKerr, *Financial Manager*  
Christine Mulholland, *Weekday Nursery Director*