

# The GoodNews Connection

PERINTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 2020



## CONTACT US

[www.perintonpres.org](http://www.perintonpres.org)

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PASTOR

*The Rev. Laura Fry*

[pastor@perintonpres.org](mailto:pastor@perintonpres.org)

PARISH ASSOCIATE

*The Rev. Harry Heintz*

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*Julie Smith*

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*Jill Bazer*

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PIANIST

*Ivanka Driankova*

CARETAKER

*Dale Olson*

Join us Sundays at 11am in  
person or on Facebook Live

[https://www.facebook.com/  
perintonpresbyterian](https://www.facebook.com/perintonpresbyterian)

Dial-in option: 1-646-558-  
8656 US (New York)  
Meeting ID: 527-577-4982  
Password: 6511



## Blues Comfort and Hope

"It's the most wonderful time of the year...." And also, for many, it's the most difficult time of the year. The weeks of Advent leading to Christmas are filled with light and anticipation for many. But for some, it is a season of darkness and struggle. For those of us that have experienced the death of a loved one or another of life's disappointments, the season can be unrelentingly dark. Our Lord, whose birth we sing, is well acquainted with darkness, death, and struggle. That, too, is good news for us.

On the afternoon of the third Sunday of Advent, December 13 at 3:00pm, we are having a brief worship service called "**Blues Comfort and Hope.**" It will give us holy space for bringing our losses, hurts, and disappointments to the Lord—and to receive comfort and hope from his word and his Spirit. Our worship will include music, scripture, and prayer, with times of silence for meditation. It will be over in time to get home before nightfall.

Because of Covid precautions, the in-person attendance will be limited and worshipers must pre-register with the church office or by clicking this link: <https://bluescomfortandhope.eventbrite.com>.

There is a possibility that we will not be able to worship in person in the sanctuary, but in the virtual way we have been using for Sunday mornings. As the day draws near, we will let you know.

**December 2020**



**Pastor's Letter**

Dear PPC,

While much of the world celebrates the beginning of a new year on January 1, Christians get a head start—our church calendar begins anew with Advent.

Of all the years that we have known, 2020 especially has left us longing for a new beginning. And while we know the struggles of Covid are not over yet, and we prepare to persevere amid the challenges yet ahead, Advent proclaims that the light shines in this darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome it.

This Advent my prayer for our PPC family is that the light of Christ will shine into our darkness, giving you and those you love, the strong promise of comfort and joy.

Pastor Laura

**Session Update**

At our November session meeting, we shared these important conversation topics:

Discussing our budget for 2021 and how we can most faithfully use your gifts for ministry.

Receiving input from the Covid Response Team, as we monitor safety amid the pandemic, including a safe strategy for Baptisms.

Reflecting on the results of our property survey, and our need to wisely steward the land entrusted to our care.

Preparing to welcome Rev. Harry Heintz to our ministry staff.

I want to offer an important reminder that our session's policy is that, in order to honor healthy personal and professional boundaries, PPC pastors may not accept personal friend requests on Facebook. This policy also extends to include our Music Director. If you send us a friend request, church policy requires that we do not accept however please know that we do very much want to connect with you in other ways. We may be active on the church's Facebook Page and Facebook Group and of course, as always, by email, phone, or in person. Please know we are available to you in all of these ways and are so grateful for the blessing each of you are in this church community. Our next session meeting is December 1, 2020.

## A message from Parish Associate Harry Heintz.....

I am thrilled to be serving as your new parish associate. Presbyterians are good at inventing descriptions, like parish associate (which fits for a retired pastor, such as I am). I will be serving quarter time, helping to oversee our ministry to older adults and those with special or emergency needs, cooperating with pastor Laura and the deacons. I will also preach about monthly and be involved in other pastoral work as Laura directs. Having known this congregation over the last three years as your Presbyterian liaison, I know PPC to be one of the healthiest congregations I have encountered. The Lord has gifted you in so many ways. It is an honor to join your staff team.



## Mission Spotlight

### ***Joy Community Turkey Give-A-Way***



As is our Thanksgiving tradition, PPC collects food for Joy Community Church to distribute Thanksgiving Baskets. COVID-19 has struck again! Joy Community was unable to collect and distribute Thanksgiving Baskets, but instead, reached out for financial donations to help purchase and distribute free turkeys. Once again, our PPC family has come through. We have collected a whopping **\$879**. Joy Community is over the moon with your generosity and outpouring of love.

### ***Perinton Food Shelf Holiday Food Drive***

We cannot distribute Christmas baskets, but we can collect non-perishable food for Perinton Food Shelf.



Sundays on **December 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, and 20<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.** volunteers will be outside the church taking your donations. You need not enter the building. All safety precautions will be in place. Unable to donate food? Your financial support is also welcomed. Financial donations help buy perishable items such as milk, eggs, cheese, hamburger, hotdogs, and butter. It also pays the rent. If the spirit so moves you, sent your checks to the church, ATTN: Peter Judd. Or use whatever means that you use presently to provide financial support to the church. Please write Perinton Food Shelf in the memo line. Checks can also be handed to the volunteers collecting food donations.

**Note from Santa:** A list of items needed from the Perinton Food Shelf will be sent by separate e-mail.

## **ADVENT & CHRISTMAS WORSHIP at PPC**

### **“A Season of Comfort & Joy”**



Join us in person or in spirit as PPC celebrates this sacred season a little differently this year. Amid COVID challenges, our goal is to offer a variety of meaningful worship experiences while keeping our church family and community safe. Although our congregation will miss sharing beloved PPC traditions together in person, we remain a strong body of Christ connected through faith, hope and love.

**Sunday Morning Worship** – November 29, December 6, 13, 20 & 27 at 11am (Sanctuary and Online). To attend in person, pre-register online or call the church office (limit 40 people plus worship team).

**Family Advent Wreaths & Devotionals** – As a special way to stay connected this year, an Advent wreath and devotional booklet will be provided to every church family, thanks to a joint effort by Church Life, Worship Committee and the Deacons. Watch for details about distribution.

**Poinsettia Ornaments** to decorate the sanctuary Christmas tree are available for purchase **in memory or in honor of loved ones**. See separate order form in church newsletter or website for more information. The Worship Committee will take care of labeling the ornaments and hanging them on the tree.

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath** – Sundays, November 29 to December 20 & Christmas Eve. You are invited to join in spirit with our church family and light your family’s Advent wreath at home during the online worship services.

**Vespers Communion Service**– Monday, December 7 at 7:00pm (via Zoom)

**Blues Comfort & Hope**– Sunday, December 13 at 3:00pm (Sanctuary and Online). A time for reflection and comfort during the holiday season, especially for those touched by loss. To attend in person, please pre-register online or call the church office (limit 40 people plus worship team).

**Special Christmas Music** – Sunday, December 20 at 11am worship service. (Sanctuary & Online)

**Christmas Eve Worship** – Thursday, December 24 (**Online only**). Pre-recorded services will be streamed at listed times and available for viewing later.

5:00pm **Family Service with Pageant**

7:00 & 9:00pm **Candlelight Service**





## CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA ORNAMENTS

*It has been an interesting year!!! Due to PPC's "different" service structure, the Worship Committee will not be ordering poinsettia plants for the sanctuary this holiday season.*

*But you can still purchase a "poinsettia" in honor/memory of someone...*

*We will be selling **poinsettia ornaments** to decorate the Christmas tree in the church sanctuary. The Worship Committee will add a tag with the name(s) you've requested and hang your ornament on the tree.*

*Once the season is over, you may take your ornament home or leave it for the church to decorate with next year.*

*Since our Advent services will feature "A Blue Christmas" or "Service of Hope", the poinsettias will be blue and white (as pictured).*

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I would like to order \_\_\_\_\_ poinsettia ornament(s) at \$5.00 each.

Please return form and payment (check payable to Perinton Presbyterian Church - memo line "Ornaments" or pay online here <https://perintonpres.org/giving/> and email your form to [office@perintonpres.org](mailto:office@perintonpres.org) ) to the church office by mail (PO Box 611) or place in the offering plate. Deadline is **December 15<sup>th</sup>** to include names in the bulletin. Profits will benefit PPC Youth Work Camp programs. For questions, contact Debbie Saylor at (585) 957-1504.



Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Given in Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Given in Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I would like to take my ornament home after the holidays (the Worship Committee will arrange delivery).

## ***My First Christmas In Heaven***

I see the countless Christmas trees around the world below  
With tiny lights, like heaven's stars, reflecting in the snow.  
The sight is so spectacular, please wipe away the tear  
For I am spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year.

I hear the many Christmas songs that people hold so dear,  
But the sounds of music cannot compare with the Christmas choir here.  
I have no words to tell you the joy their voices bring.  
For it is beyond description to hear the angels sing.

I know how much you miss me: I see the pain inside your heart,  
But I am not so far away. We really are not apart.  
So be happy for me dear ones. You know I hold you near.  
And be glad I'm spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year.

I sent you each a special gift from my heavenly home above.  
I sent you back a memory of my undying love.  
After all love is a gift more precious than pure gold.  
It was always more important in the stories Jesus told.

Please love and keep each other, as our Father said to do,  
For I can't count the blessings or love He has for each of you.  
So have a merry Christmas and wipe away that tear.  
Remember I am spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year.



May we all remember with love, faith and hope those who have  
passed on during this past year and may we remember with care  
and compassion those who have lost loved ones.

Published in the Perinton Presbyterian Church  
The GoodNews Connection  
December 2008

*Thank you to the Nettleton Family for submitting this.*

## From the Deacons

Winter is coming and we are wishing everyone a warm, healthy and safe season.

The Deacons were very grateful to have Cheryl Martin as our guest speaker at our November meeting. Cheryl is a nurse and has her masters in psychology. She is a trainer certified in both trauma rehabilitation and substance abuse disorder. She spoke to us about understanding the needs of the elderly and also about the stigma related to mental health.

We welcomed Katherine Agar to our service on November 1<sup>st</sup>. She is preparing for the ministry with Dubuque Theological Seminary. Great job Katherine.

Thank you to troop 209 and all of the church members who helped rake leaves on November 7<sup>th</sup>. We are also very appreciative to the people who donated money to the Joy Community so they could provide turkeys for the people in need.

Kudos to Julie Smith, our new choir director for hosting a meet and greet for the choir members and anyone else interested in music ministry. We are also blessed to welcome Harry Heintz to our ministry team.

Hooray for the PPC. The church has collected 53 boxes for Operation Christmas Child.

HAVE A HOLLY JOLLY CHRISTMAS!!!!!!



**Happy December Birthday to the following members of our church family!!!**

***May He give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed. Psalm 20:4***

Jeffrey Beardsley, Tyler Blair, Timothy Chormann, David Connelly, Courtney Cronin, Jean Daniel, Peter Dietz, Elizabeth Fish, Emily Fish, Michelle Fish, Robert Foote, Sherri Frederick, Larry Hessney, Emily Hessney-Lynch, John Horvath, James Jackson, Jonelle Kohl, Evelyn Kruger, Mark McDaniel, James McDowell, Emily Morsheimer, Betty Price, Camille Sackett, Beverly Senecker, Maureen Thayer, Cherilyn VanHall, Sonya Verrillo, Sherry Wigfield

# December 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1  7pm Session	2 10am Bible Study  6pm Bell Choir	3  6pm Advent Project	4	5
6 11am Worship 2pm Advent Project	7 Advent Kit Pick-Up 7pm Vespers Service 7pm Troop 209	8  7pm Deacons	9 10am Bible Study  6pm Bell Choir	10	11	12
13 11am Worship 3pm Blues, Comfort & Hope	14  7pm Troop 209	15  7:30pm Outreach	16 10am Bible Study  6pm Bell Choir	17	18	19
20 11am Worship 12pm Newsletter Deadline	21 6pm CE Meeting 7pm Facilities	22	23 10am Bible Study  6pm Bell Choir	24 Online Services only 5pm 7pm 9pm	25 Christmas Day	26
27 11am Worship	28 Church office closed	29	30 10am Bible Study  6pm Bell Choir	31 New Years Eve		



## The numbers are in...

### Stewardship Message

"When our attitude towards ourselves is big, and our attitude toward others is generous and merciful, we attract big and generous portions of success." – W. Clement Stone



### Results through October

Below are the results through the first ten months of the year. Overall, we are running a deficit for the year. There were two major factors that contributed to this change in October. In the Operating Fund, our expenses were higher than usual due to the new staff members coming onboard. In the Building Funds, we had to reclassify the PPP funds we received earlier in the year and remove them from the income statement. This was a financial transaction and does not impact the actual funds available.

Thank you for your support of the ministries and missions of the church.

Perinton Presbyterian Church			
Summary			
10/31/2020			
Performance Year-to-date through Oct			
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>			
Operating Fund	\$	243,236	
Building Fund	\$	92,000	
Total Income			\$ 335,236
<b><u>EXPENSES</u></b>			
Operating Fund	\$	241,565	
Building Fund	\$	98,070	
Total Expenses			\$ 339,635
<b><u>SURPLUS (DEFICIT)</u></b>			
Operating Fund	\$	1,671	
Building Fund	\$	(6,070)	
Net Surplus (Deficit)			\$ (4,399)

### General Information

There is a two-month lag in reporting finances in the newsletter due to mailing deadlines, timing of bank statements and report processing. Contact Mark Stevens at (585) 739-8452 or [mwstevens63@gmail.com](mailto:mwstevens63@gmail.com) if you have questions or to request copies of financial statements. Our Operational Fund supports the day to day operation of the church and its programs. The Building Fund supports our Mortgage and building expansion program. Like several churches in the Presbytery we embrace a "faith-based" financial plan and thus we do not budget our income. If you have questions about your individual contributions or personal statements please contact the Financial Secretary, Al Norby at (585) 223-2126 or [anorby1@rochester.rr.com](mailto:anorby1@rochester.rr.com)

### Charitable Giving

Tax tip for those "slightly maturing" adults age 70 ½ and above. With the changes in the 2018 Tax Code, people have been looking for alternative methods of gifting to charitable organizations. The Fidelity link below provides helpful information on one of those alternatives. As always, seek the counsel of your tax advisor.

"Donating to a charity using a qualified charitable distribution (QCD)" <https://www.fidelity.com/learning-center/personal-finance/retirement/qcds-the-basics>

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## Mailing Address

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Website: www.perintonpres.org

Rev. Laura Fry, Pastor

Rev. Harry Heintz, Parish Associate

Julie Smith, Music Director

Ivanka Driankova, Pianist

Jonelle Kohl & Sherri Frederick, Church School Coordinators

Dale Olson, Caretaker

Jillian Bazer, Office Administrator

## Worship Time:

Sunday's 11am

In Person, Facebook Live or Call-in Option

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