

# The GoodNews Connection

PERINTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



## December 2021

### CONTACT US

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

6511 Pittsford Palmyra Road

P.O. Box 611

Fairport, NY 14450

585-223-1203

PASTOR

*Rev. Laura Fry*

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

PARISH ASSOCIATE

*Harry Heintz*

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

MUSIC DIRECTOR

*Julie Smith*

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

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

*Sami Lindsey*

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

PIANIST

*Ivanka Driankova*

CARETAKER

*Dale Olson*

Join us Sundays at 8:30 am and  
11 a.m. 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



## PPC Worship Events

Dec. 4th

Come Decorate PPC for Christmas  
beginning @ 9:30am

Dec. 5th

Second Sunday of Advent; "Mighty  
God", 8:30 and 11am

Dec. 12th

Third Sunday of Advent; "Everlasting  
Father", 8:30 and 11am

Dec. 19th

Fourth Sunday of Advent; "Prince of  
Peace", 8:30 and 11am

Dec. 21st

Service of Comfort and Hope at 7pm  
on Facebook (100% Virtual)

Dec. 24th

Christmas Pageant Service @ 5pm /  
Candlelight Service @ 8pm

Dec. 25th

CHRISTMAS

Dec. 26th

One Worship Service 9:30am

Jan. 2nd

One Worship Service 9:30am



Dear PPC,

Advent blessings to you all! I am so happy that we are preparing to celebrate Advent and Christmas together in person this year at PPC! With Christians all around the world, Advent invites us to pause, gather, breathe, and enter the beauty and mystery of the incarnation.

In worship we'll share the beloved Scripture and songs of this season, encountering Jesus our Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace. We are offering two beautiful Advent devotionals—one from the *Presbyterian Outlook* entitled "Night Watch," designed especially for adults, and one from *Illustrated Ministry* entitled "God with Us," designed for families to share together. Print copies will be available in the narthex and digital copies will be emailed to the congregation. You are welcome to use one or both; please also feel free to share these resources with your friends and loved ones.

Along with these personal spiritual resources, we are offering opportunities to gather in faith, including an Advent Bible Study on Sunday Mornings and Christmas caroling outdoors in the community just across the street from the church—more information on dates and times can be found later in the newsletter. And, on the darkest night of the year—December 21, at 7pm—we are offering a 100% virtual Service of Comfort and Hope for those who carry sorrow with them during Advent, as we seek comfort in the presence of Emmanuel, God with us. Our two Christmas Eve services—at 5pm and 8pm—will both be offered in person and virtually; what a joy to lift our voices together in praise on that holy night!

If you have been considering the right time to rejoin PPC worship services in person, Advent is a wonderful season to do so and we would love to see you, as together we celebrate the promise that God IS with us!

God's peace be with you,

Pastor Laura



## Session Update

Our November 2 session meeting included the following items:

Reviewed worship services in September and October and congregational input. Guided by this conversation, we decided to keep the two differing styles of services and weekly

Communion at the 8:30am service, and move the time of the second service back to 11am, to create more opportunities for learning and fellowship.

Voted to recharter Boy Scout Troop 209 and requested more information about the possibility of chartering Cub Scout Pack 273. All scouting groups chartered by PPC will be required to provide copies of all scout leader background checks and attend (one time) the Bivona Child Advocacy Darkness to Light Stewards of Children training that PPC will be hosting in the spring of 2022.

Completed a first reading of the 2022 budget, which will be voted on at our December 7 session meeting

Approved the following sabbatical recommendations:

The Presbytery of Genesee Valley recommends that installed pastors take a sabbatical during the seventh year of their ministry in a congregation. A sabbatical is typically a 3-month period in which the pastor engages in a time of continuing education and renewal that will enrich their ministry in the congregation. At a special meeting of session in September 2019, session approved such a sabbatical for Pastor Laura Fry in her seventh year at PPC. In order to prepare financially for Laura's anticipated sabbatical, likely in the summer of 2026, session voted in November 2021 that at the end of each year, we transfer any remaining funds in the pastor's travel and professional allowance, up to \$1500, to a sabbatical reserve account. These funds would be used for continuing education during the sabbatical, and such use would require session approval at that time. We additionally voted to establish a reserve account to set aside funds each year for pulpit supply during the pastor's sabbatical.

Received an update on repairs to the HVAC system and church stoves.

Discussed refugee support through World Relief of WNY, agreeing to bring this opportunity to the congregation during worship on November 7 to gauge interest.

Following our annual staff review process, approved renewal of our contract with Harry Heintz as PPC's Parish Associate for a second year.

Approved 9:30am worship services on December 26 and January 2.

In accordance with NYS requirements, we approved PPC's NYS Hero Act Document, which sets forth our safety practices regarding the prevention of the spread of airborne illness.

Set our annual meeting date of January 30, 12pm, with the following Sunday as our snow date.

Our next session meeting will be December 7, 2021, at 7pm.

# Celebrate the Joy of Christmas!!



Please join us in Christmas caroling at the Valley Creek Condominiums (right across 31 from the church) on Sunday, December 12th at 3:00pm. All are welcome! Meet in the Perinton Wegmans parking lot on the left side.

## CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA ORNAMENTS



*We continue to have another an interesting year!!! The Worship Committee will again, not be ordering poinsettia plants for the sanctuary this holiday season other than a few for decorating. But you can still purchase a "poinsettia" in 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.*

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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") to the church office by mail (PO Box 611) or place in the offering plate. Deadline is **December 11<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).

## From the Deacons

In October the Deacons gave flowers to Pastor Laura and Pastor Harry on behalf of the congregation for Pastor Appreciation Sunday.

Congratulations to Maureen Thayer on the celebration of her marriage November 27.

At the November Deacons meeting our guest speaker was from SOFI (Senior Options For Independence). This is an organization in Perinton that helps people (those 60 and older in Perinton) stay in their homes. A call to SOFI will provide the caller with the support services available.

The money raised when you donate/purchase items at the Tool Thrift Shop or Craft Bits and Pieces goes to support the SOFI organization.

Feel free to give SOFI a call at 585-377-7830 if you or someone you know needs support. Volunteers are welcome. 2 hours a week!

It is wonderful to see everyone at the 2 services!

8:30 - Family service with communion weekly

11:00 - a more traditional service with the choir

Remember: Take a moment each busy day to experience Advent, the time of waiting and preparing for the birth of Jesus. The Advent wreath reminds us of the hope, faith, joy, love and peace of the season.

### Church Accountant/Bookkeeper



*Do you have finance experience or just love working with numbers? Looking for a new way to serve God's mission for our church? The Finance Team is looking for a volunteer Church Accountant/Bookkeeper. This person manages the Operating Fund aspects of the church so that all income, expenses, and fund balances are accurately controlled and reported. Just a few hours per month. Experience with Microsoft Excel needed. Experience with QuickBooks a plus. Training available. If you're interested in learning more, contact Mark Stevens, Peter Judd, or Rev. Laura.*

### Prayer Requests



If you have a prayer request that you would like added to the prayer chain, please email it to the office by Thursdays at noon [office@perintonpres.org](mailto:office@perintonpres.org)

*"...we have not ceased to pray for you..." (Col. 1:9)*

## Advent: Preparing the Way

What is Advent? Doesn't celebrating Christmas begin as soon as the Thanksgiving leftovers are gone? After all, some radio stations started playing Christmas music right after Halloween.

We will have a three-Sunday study on December 5, 12, and 19, at 9:30am, during the faith formation hour between our worship gatherings. We will look carefully at the Gospel accounts about the birth of our Messiah. Many of those passages are quite familiar, but there are some surprises upon closer examination. This study will be led by Pastor Harry and all are welcome. Bring the Bible you most like reading.



## Year End Challenge

The Commercial Holiday Season is once again upon us, with Black Friday, Small Business Saturday and Cyber Monday as the early indicators. However, the most important day of the coming week is Tuesday, which is designated as Giving Tuesday. Giving Tuesday is touted as a "global generosity movement unleashing the power of people and organizations to transform their communities and the world". While it only has one day on the calendar, isn't this what we as Christians strive to do every day?

Over the past few weeks, Laura and Harry have mentioned that our giving levels for the year are currently below our expenses, and we may end the year with the deficit. In response to this, we're happy to announce that in the spirit of unleashing generosity, one of our members has issued a challenge to the congregation. The challenge is this – they will match, dollar for dollar, any extra donations given between now and the end of the year, over and above your regular giving, up to a maximum of \$5,000. That's an additional \$10,000 that can help close this gap and fulfill God's mission for the church.

If you choose to participate in this special donation, all you need to do is visit our website and select "Give to Year End Challenge" <https://ppc6511.breezechms.com/give/online>

Or include a note with your donation to indicate that it is part of the year end challenge. For those who have already responded to this appeal, your donations will also be included in the challenge total.

So, however you decide to commemorate Giving Tuesday or give during the Advent season, remember these words from 2 Corinthians: each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

Thank you for your consideration and generosity.  
God's Peace,  
The Stewardship Committee

## Meet our new office administrator!

Hello everyone! I'm so excited for this opportunity to introduce myself to you all! My name is Sami Lindsey, and I am thrilled to join you all here at Perinton Pres. My family and I live in Farmington, NY and are members of First Congregational Church of Canandaigua. I am mom to one and stepmom to three absolutely incredible children who I couldn't possibly be more proud of. I hold a masters degree from University at Buffalo and a national certification in Rehabilitation Counseling, but am thoroughly enjoying a much needed change of pace with my career. Some fun facts about me—I am an upright bassist, a member of my church's choir, an avid sewer, and a lover of spooky movies! My family and I are camping enthusiasts, and are always open to recommendations of the best spots to check out. I also have a very silly dog named Jazzie, and a big fat cat named Patches O'Houlihan. I cannot wait to get to know each and every one of you! Feel free to stop into the office and say hello sometime! -Sami

## My partner Duane and I



The kids! From left to right: Phoenix, 13; Jocelyn, 16; Bella, 12; Evan, 14

## Important COVID Updates

As cold and flu season arrives, we want to remind everyone of our COVID safety practices at PPC:

If you are feeling unwell, please stay home and rest. If you are signed up to help with something at church, call the office (223-1203) and we will find a replacement for that role until you are feeling better.

We urge everyone to get vaccinated against both COVID-19 and the flu.

Thank you all for your cooperation in wearing masks in the church building.

Please maintain a safe distance from all those not living in your household.

Food may be served in accordance with the following guidelines:

Food is served by designated individuals wearing gloves and masks (no serve yourself/ buffet option.)

Individually wrapped utensils are provided.

Masks may be removed to eat, provided individuals are seated approximately 3' apart.

Handwashing and sanitizing is encouraged.

We thank you for helping PPC stay open as we strive to safely navigate the pandemic.



**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**

Jeff Beardsley, Tyler Blair, Timothy Chormann, Julian Coats, David Connelly, Courtney Cronin, Peter Dietz, Kate Farrar, Elizabeth Fish, Emily Fish, Michelle Fish, Bob Foote, Sharon Frederick, Erika Hahn, Larry Hessney, Emily Hessney-Lynch, John Horvath, James Jackson, Jonelle Kohl, Evelyn Kruger, Mark McDaniel, Jamie McDowell, Griffin Miller, Betty Price, Camille Sackett, Bev Senecker, Maureen Thayer, Cheryl VanHall, Sonya Verrillo, Sherry Wigfield

**DON'T MISS  
THE DEADLINE!**

All submissions for the monthly newsletter must be emailed to Sami no later than 9am on the 20th of the month.  
[office@perintonpres.org](mailto:office@perintonpres.org)



# FINANCE UPDATE

The numbers are in.....

## Stewardship Message

I have found that, among its other benefits, giving liberates the soul of the giver. – Maya Angelou

## Results through October

Below are the results through the first ten months of 2021. We continue to run a deficit in both the Operating and Building funds but anticipate that we will close this gap before the end of the year.

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

| Summary<br>10/31/2021<br>Performance Year-to-date through October |    |          |             |
|---|----|----------|-------------|
| <b>INCOME</b>   |    |          |             |
| Operating Fund  | \$ | 236,483  |             |
| Building Fund   | \$ | 90,511   |             |
| Total Income  | \$ | 326,994  | \$ 326,994  |
| <b>EXPENSES</b>   |    |          |             |
| Operating Fund  | \$ | 250,252  |             |
| Building Fund   | \$ | 98,070   |             |
| Total Expenses  | \$ | 348,322  | \$ 348,322  |
| <b>SURPLUS (DEFICIT)</b>  |    |          |             |
| Operating Fund  | \$ | (13,770) |             |
| Building Fund   | \$ | (7,559)  |             |
| Net Surplus (Deficit)   |    |          | \$ (21,328) |

## 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)

## Stock Donations and Bequests

If you have appreciated stock you may find it to be a tax advantage to donate stock to the church. Several people have provided PPC with stock donations which have personal tax benefits. Please consider a bequest to PPC in planning your Will. We have received bequests in the past year and are blessed that at the passing of life other lives can be impacted in this special way. If you are interested in learning more about these giving options, please contact Al Norby or Mark Stevens.

# Perinton Presbyterian Church

6511 Pittsford-Palmyra Road

## Mailing Address

PO Box 611

Fairport, NY 14450

Tel (585) 223-1203

office@perintonpres.org

Website: www.perintonpres.org

Rev. Laura Fry, Pastor

Harry Heintz, Parrish Associate

Julie Smith, Music Director

Ivanka Driankova, Pianist

Jonelle Kohl & Sherri Frederick, Church School Coordinators

Dale Olson, Caretaker

Samantha Lindsey, Office Administrator

## Worship Times:

Sundays at 8:30 and 11am

In-Person, Online, or Call-In Option

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Fairport, NY 14450-0611

