



Presbyterian Church Niagara Falls, NY Newsletter November 2024

The Session voted, at the October 15, 2024 meeting, not to renew the Covenant Agreement with Rev. Cathy. The Session found this to be a very difficult decision because we all are very fond of Rev. Cathy and pray for her full recovery. However, the Session is charged with the responsibility of insuring the church has pastoral leadership and to do all possible to insure the survival of the church family. The Session has determined it is necessary for us to begin searching for new leadership.

The Session knows that all members wish Rev. Cathy God's healing and wish her the necessary time to fully heal and to determine her future path.

When the church celebrates our 200th anniversary, we will also celebrate and honor Rev. Cathy .

Carol Dashineau, Clerk of Session

The preaching schedule for November and December

November 3 - Rev. Justin Marple

November 10 -Terry McIntyre

November 17 - Rev. Justin Marple

November 24 - Terry McIntyre.

For the month of December Rev. Justin Marple will be in the pulpit.

We hope to see everyone on Sunday morning. Remember it is an important concept in Christianity that Christians worship together!

NAP October Dinner

The November NAP Dinner will be hosted by Riverside Presbyterian Church, 815 84th Street, Niagara Falls, NY, Wednesday, November 6, 5:00 PM. The NAP dinners are a nice way to get to know your neighbors and enjoy fellowship and a meal.

All are Welcome



Samaritan Christmas Shoebboxes

On Sunday, November 3, we will pray Samaritan Christmas Shoebboxes on their way. November 3, is the last day filled shoebboxes can be returned.



Stewardship Campaign

The fall Stewardship campaign, in the last weeks of the campaign. Our schedule is outlined below.

Sunday, November 3: "Consecration Sunday", dedication of pledges.

Sunday, November 10: "Victory Sunday", with progress report.

Thank you for your participation in the life of our Church!

Your Stewardship Committee

Daylight Savings Time will end Sunday, November 3rd. Before you go to bed Saturday night turn your clocks back one hour. It is also a good time to check the batteries in your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms.



Lewiston Choraleers Christmas Concert

The Lewiston Choraleers will present their annual Christmas Concert on the following three dates. First Pres own Lis Slenk sings in the Choraleers.

Saturday, November 30th, First United Methodist Church, 8210 Buffalo Ave.

Niagara Falls, 2:00 PM

Sunday, December 1st, St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church, 620 Center St Lewiston, 2:00 PM

Saturday, December 7th, Messiah Lutheran Church, 915 Oneida St., Lewiston, 2:00 PM



Monday, November 11 is Veteran's' Day . The Post Office, Federal, State and local Government buildings will be closed. Banks and most schools will also be closed.



Election Day is Tuesday November 5th. Your vote is your voice.

The church office will be closed Wednesday, November 13. The Secretary will be out of the office.

THIRD CENTURY CAMPAIGN

Capital Fund Drive

Our Church, formed 200 years ago, is entering its third century of existence. Our church building on this site dates to 1849. It is showing its age! In 2022, we applied for and received a NY Environmental Protection Grant of \$426,464 which at the time was estimated to cover 75% of the restoration costs for the historic building, focusing on the bell tower. That was the percentage that the grant was authorized to cover. We get those funds through reimbursement as the restoration program proceeds. In 2023, we were also awarded architecture and construction grants totaling \$45,000 from the NY Landmark Conservancy's Sacred Sites program. We have received those funds.

We are entering the construction phase of our bell tower restoration project. The tower scaffolding is now up, and the 1848 bell has been removed for restoration. Asbestos and lead abatement are underway now. The tower restoration work will begin shortly. The estimate for the actual construction is now \$970,000. This is exclusive of administration costs, architect fees, and other fees such as asbestos monitoring and abatement. The construction work is now almost exclusively confined to the bell tower and the south turret, although our original estimate provided for the 2022 grant (\$636,000) covered more items such as resealing all windows and extensive repointing of the masonry beyond the bell tower. Since covid, costs have escalated, and probably the original value supplied for the EPF grant was underestimated as well.

Beyond what the grants provide (\$471,464), the costs will be borne by the church, through donations and through our capital funds. This amount will be approximately \$600,000. The church's capital funds that we can spend on this project now generate investment income and (usually) capital gains which help us cover our deficit budgets. It has been and still is important to our existence that we maintain this reserve as much as possible.

We have initiated a low-key capital fund drive to attract donations for those who would like to contribute. There will be no pledge cards or mail solicitations. Donors will be kept confidential though amounts pledged or donated will be published. If you feel that this is a cause our Lord would like you to support and you are willing, please let the Church Treasurer (Carolyn Goddard) know. Gift checks may be made out to the church with "restoration" indicated as the purpose. Thank you, and may God bless the work of First Presbyterian Church of Niagara Falls in its third century!

Please Pray for Those Who are Sick or Shut-in



Shut-Ins

Dolores Coleman Tony Pryor
Jane McNaughton Bob McNaughton

Prayer List

Bill Karches Jillian Horner
Mark Tarbell Collette Sorg
Brian Tarbell Rita Horner
Cathy Rieley-Goddard
Christine Malinowski

November Volunteer Schedule

Lay Readers

November 3 - Carol Dashineau
November 10 - John Goddard
November 17 - Lis Slenk
November 24 - Carol Dashineau

Communion Servers

November 3 - Jeanette Lamorie and
Dori Parry



Sunday Worship on You Tube

Each week the Sunday morning worship service is video-recorded. The video is uploaded to First Pres Niagara Falls early in the week. Check it out. The link to You Tube is youtube.com/channel/UCV8PmvV_gWm7wjggyl-g03g.

November Birthdays

November 7 John Goddard
November 8 Rita Horner
November 13 Rev. Justin Marple

Happy Birthday!



Budget Report for September 2024

	<u>Actual \$</u>	<u>Year to Date \$</u>	<u>Budget YTD \$</u>
GIVING	940	20,930	21,501
Investment Income, Other	310	27,144	28,503
TOTAL INCOME	1,250	48,074	50,004
EXPENSES	6,942	80,812	99,882
NET (Deficit)	(5,692)	(32,738)	(49,878)

Expenses included \$636 for substitute pastors, \$570 for cleaning services, and \$325 for electric.

November

2024

Sun

Mon


Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					1	2 
3 <i>Communion</i> 	4	5 Vote	6 <i>NAP Dinner, Riverside Presbyterian 5:00 PM</i>	7	8	9
10	11 	12	13 <i>Office Closed</i>	14	15	16
17	18	19 <i>Session 7:00 PM</i>	20	21	22	23
24 	25	26	27	28 <i>Happy Thanksgiving</i> 	29	30

The Newsletter of First Presbyterian
Church of Niagara Falls, N.Y.

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Return Service Requested



We're on the Web:

www.firstpresnfny.org

You Tube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lsk4U35pI2I>

Face Book <https://www.facebook.com/First-Presbyterian-Church-Niagara-Falls-117888153453785/>



CHURCH OFFICE

Hours: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 9:00 AM
to 1:00 PM

Telephone: 716-285-3555

Sunday Worship 10:00 AM
Communion First Sunday of Month

News and letters may be submitted by mail to:
First Presbyterian Church, 311 First St., Niagara Falls,
NY 14303
ATTN: First Press



News may also be submitted via e-mail to the Church
Secretary at firstpresnfny@gmail.com or may be dropped through the mail
slot of the church office.

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Newsletter deadline is the 15th of the month.



NOVEMBER

2024

