



First Presbyterian Church, Niagara Falls, NY November 2023 Newsletter

Dear Friends,

What a whirlwind these past weeks have been. No one expects to wake up one day to find out they have a brain tumor. But, it happens. I am so grateful to you for being kind and generous and patient with me. So many people are not as fortunate as I to have folks to work with who are so generous. Thank you!

I am going to be treated for this for the rest of my life. My life will probably be shorter than it might have been without this tumor. We all run into challenges and how we respond is what makes the difference. My treatments are going well. I am still pretty tired every day. I suspect these will be the hardest days. In a few months I will be stronger and back to work just like before.

One of the things I have been thinking about these past weeks is the notion of Sanctuary. Who is your sanctuary? Where is your sanctuary? How do you manage when you feel overwhelmed?

Here is the definition from an online dictionary —

A place of refuge and protection. So simple and so true. Jon (my husband) died almost two years ago. It was just in the past few weeks that I was able to connect him with the notion of sanctuary in my life. The last couple of years he was always home. I would be out doing things and come home to tell him about it. It was more real when I could share with him. He was my place of safety. For months after he died I kind of felt unmoored. I no longer had that safe haven (person) to share my life with. I have had to find new ways to be connected and to understand myself. I am not the only one this happens to. All of us need a place, a person to help us feel safe, at home.

I encourage you over these coming weeks to think about sanctuary. What does it mean for you. Where do you go to find it? How do you cope when you realize it is missing?

I am happy to share the conversation. Send me a note. Call me. Let's have a coffee to talk it through.

Friends, may you always know that you walk with those who have come before us, those who will come after us, and with the grace of God along side you.

Blessings,

Cathy

Thank You, Thank you!

I cannot thank you enough for your kindness to me over the past weeks. I opened my door one day to this beautiful bouquet of flowers from you. I have enjoyed it so much over the past days. The cards and prayers and messages have all lifted my spirit as I live into this new way of being. Blessings to each of you in these coming days. I am resting and managing my time. I am available by text or email, please reach out if you would like to talk.

Blessings, Cathy



The JFS our partner in helping to settle new comers in our community is collecting new and lightly used winter coats for kids. Many will be coming from places that are much warmer than WNY. All kids sizes are needed. The coats will be put to good use. Coats can be dropped off at First Pres on Sundays before Worship Service and at the First Pres office during regular office hours. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Thank you in advance



Lewiston Choraleers Christmas Concerts

The Lewiston Choraleers will present their annual Christmas concert the first and second weekends of December. They will preform traditional and contemporary music. Mark your calendar as this is a great way to kick off the Christmas holiday.

Concert Schedule

Saturday, December 2, St. Peter's RC, Lewiston 1:00 PM

Sunday, December 3, Immaculate Conception RC, Ransomville 2:00 PM

Saturday, December 9, St. John deLasalle Niagara Falls, 1:00 PM.

Sunday, December 10, Messiah Lutheran, Lewiston 2:00 PM

Stewardship Campaign

Sunday, November 5: "Victory Sunday", with progress report. Thank you for your participation in the life of our Church!

Your Stewardship Committee

NAP November Dinner

The November NAP Dinner will be hosted by the Lewiston Presbyterian Church, 505 Cayuga Street, Lewiston NY, November 1st., 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



Connecting With our Community

Jockline Pryor has been organizing some activities to help us connect more with the community around us. She is working on a visit at the Underground Railroad Resource Center in November. If you want to go on this outing, please let Janet in the office know so we can get it scheduled. The history of the Underground Railroad in our area is rich. We all benefit when we increase our knowledge.

Election Day Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Participating in elections is one of the key freedoms of American life. Many people in countries around the world do not have the same freedom, nor did many Americans in centuries past. No matter what you believe or whom you support, it is important to exercise your rights. However you vote, if by mail-in or at the ballot box be sure to vote.



Samaritan Christmas Shoeboxes

The deadline for filled shoeboxes is Sunday, November 5.



Daylight Savings ends Sunday, November 5th.

Turn clocks back one hour before going to bed Saturday night, November 4th. You don't want to be late for Church.

VETERANS DAY



**Please Pray for Those Who
are Sick or Shut-in**



Shut-Ins

Dolores Coleman
Abraham McLarahmore
Dom DeFazio

Prayer List

Bill Karches Christine King
Jillian Horner Christine Goddard
Mark Tarbell Rita Horner
Cathy Rieley-Goddard

November Volunteer Schedule

Lay Readers

November 5 - John Goddard
November 12 - Carol Dashineau
November 19 - Lis Slenk
November 26 - John Goddard

Communion Servers

October 1 - Jeanette Lamorie and
Dori Parry



November Birthdays
November 7 John Goddard
November 8 Rita Horner
Happy Birthday!

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-q03g](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCV8PmvV_gWm7wjggyl-q03g).



First Pres is planning a Christmas Road Trip. This year it has been decided to stay local for the annual Christmas Road Trip. We will meet at St John deLasalle, RC, Niagara Falls at 1:00 PM, Saturday, December 9, for the Lewiston Choraleers Christmas Concert. After the concert we will gather at a local restaurant for a late lunch or early supper. Stay tuned for more info.

Budget Report for September 2023

	<u>Actual \$</u>	<u>Year to Date \$</u>	<u>Budget YTD \$</u>
GIVING	793	19,909	22,266
Investment Income, Other	323	22,022	24,561
TOTAL INCOME	1,116	41,931	46,827
EXPENSES	7,180	89,650	101,898
NET (Deficit)	(6,064)	(47,719)	(55,071)

Investment income was from the J.G. Marshall Trust. Expenses included \$609 for substitute pastors, 356 for Maid Brigade and \$246 for electricity.

November

2023

Sun

Mon








Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

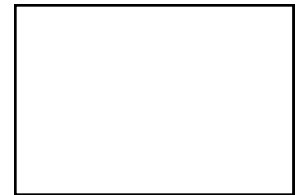
Sat

			<i>1 Nap Dinner 5:00PM Lewiston Presbyterian</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i> 
<i>5 Communion Daylight Savings ends Victory Sunday</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i> 	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i> 
<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>19 Coffee and Fellow- ship hour 9:15 AM</i>	<i>20 Session 7:00 PM</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i> 	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>26</i> 	<i>27</i>	<i>28 Giving Tuesday</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>		

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

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Return Service Requested



We're on the Web:

www.firstpresnfy.org

You Tube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L5k4U35p12I>

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

Rev. Cathy Rieley-Goddard office hours are Monday and Wednesday.

Visit us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/First-Presbyterian-Church-Niagara-Falls-117888153453785/>

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 firstpres2@verzon.net or may be dropped through the mail slot of the church office.

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Editor/Publisher: Janet Roat
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