

First United Presbyterian Church of Pine Plains

3039 Church Street
(to visit)
P. O. Box 313
(for mailing)
Pine Plains, NY 12567
Tel: (518) 398-7117

*To **know** the love of
Christ; to **show** the
love of Christ; and to
grow in the love of
Christ.*

All are welcome to
join us at our
weekly Sunday
worship service at
11:00 a.m.

Pastoral Care:

Pastor Ryan can be
reached for *urgent and
emergency* needs on
his personal mobile
phone 24/7, (518) 261-
0834. For non-urgent
calls, please leave a
message on the church
office phone: (518)
398-7117, which is
checked as few as
seven times/week and
not every day.

Hudson River
Presbytery:
www.hudrivpres.org

Agape Harvest

What comes to your mind when you think of November? For most of us here in the U.S., November conjures up images of Thanksgiving dinners and time spent with family. Perhaps some people focus on Election Day, or Veteran's Day, or the frenzied shopping day after Thanksgiving known as Black Friday. November usually marks the end of summer recreational activities and it's when we put our gardens to bed and begin preparing for winter.

When it comes to religious observances, November starts off with All Saints Day on Nov. 1, celebrated in many churches either the Sunday before or the Sunday after. The end of November (or sometimes the beginning of December) is also the start of the Advent Season, the four weeks leading up to Christmas, which marks the beginning of the church's liturgical calendar.

What does that mean? A liturgy is an official set of rules used by churches for public worship and outlines how and when the rites, holy days and feast days, and seasons of the church are observed. Much of the church's liturgy is therefore laid out in calendar form and follows the story of Christ, beginning with the anticipation of his birth during the Season of Advent to the birth of the Church with Pentecost, with each season having its own color. Parts of the calendar in which no particular aspect of the mystery of Christ is celebrated is called Ordinary Time.

The liturgical calendar shared by most Western churches today -- with some denominational differences -- developed gradually over many centuries.

Very early on, Western churches began incorporating specific scripture readings, the Roman Rite lectionary, for each day of the year. Then in 1969 the Catholic Church revised this lectionary, adopting a three-year cycle (Years A, B, and C) of Sunday readings, with each year built around one of the three synoptic Gospels -- Matthew (A), Mark (B), and Luke (C). This revised lectionary was adopted by Protestants, leading to the publication in 1994 of the Revised Common Lectionary for Sundays and major feasts, which is now used to varying extent by many Protestant denominations.

The Revised Common Lectionary is a selection of 4 readings for each Sunday which rotates with this 3-year liturgical calendar. The readings are from the Old Testament, Psalms, Epistles, and Gospel; usually, the readings for a given day have a thematic relationship to the Gospel reading for that day, but not always.

We are currently in Year B. On the first Sunday of Advent, which this year falls on Nov. 28, we will begin Year C and a new liturgical year centered around the Gospel of Luke.

I hope this high-level overview gives some insight into the liturgical calendar, the liturgical seasons, and the lectionary that we use.

Dyan Wapnick

Pastor's letter

Dear Church,

You know I watch myself when I speak to you. I am often so high on what the Holy Spirit with us is doing in Pine Plains specifically, and beyond! I do not want for the jubilation emanating from me to be so often displayed such that you cannot tell when it is extraordinary beyond the normal. Also, I want you to know that my expression of the joy I know, or joy from your fellow church and townspeople never means you cannot tell us when you need more joy, have new ideas, etc.

Yet, I just cannot hold it back. I have been thinking differently during my travels over this endless summer as I make-up for no time away in COVID's long beginnings. As I see it, the best is in these weeks that are upon us now!

All-Saints' Day honoring those who are still with us, but in new ways of connectedness after their Earthly death. It is counter-cultural in places like the U.S. to know All-Saints' celebrations as a joy and this worship comes this **Sunday, Nov. 7**.

Then we roll directly to another "odd" and more obvious joys in fast succession in this season of the year: On **November 14th at 11am**, we will worship in a **Service of Wholeness and Healing** (you may remember the COVID version in Summer 2020) that helps to more fully prepare us for the days of thanksgiving, including those in Advent, Christmas, and 2022 ahead! **On November 21 at 10am**, a community-shared **Thanksgiving Service** will be hosted in the beautifully-renovated **Episcopal church**. A video option to this service is anticipated, but not yet known for certain. Your Advent/Christmas Season Team is active and excellent (you may join us for any one or all planning and leadership on that Team at any time – our next 55-minute meeting is set to happen at 6pm on November 8 in the Fellowship Hall!). **Advent begins Sunday, Nov. 28**, with a new tradition of 11am worship including the liturgy of **Hanging of the Greens** of the season plus Advent carols! Advent continues to the 19th of December, with our annual **Dec. 24th service at 7pm** bringing us to **Christmas!** We get the full 12 Days of Christmas in joy, culminating with a date/time to be determined **Twelfth Night** gathering, surely inside the church building this year!

Who can hold such joy! God is so good! Put your people in a wheelbarrow and park them right by a warm pew for all of these days! It would be so sad for all of us if anyone misses even one of these days together! Plan, in joy, accordingly! I love you. Let me know all that you need at any time.

In peace,

Pastor Ryan

A special note: I am so very thankful for the wave of newcomers to the Church and new connections in the community who have not yet made it to a church event. In every case, it was one or more of you who made the initial contact that brought new ones to love amongst us. I have heard UNIVERSALLY of the welcome that those new to us have felt in God's house called First United! This is our calling! This is purest joy to hear! Please, keep going for God and us! Let me know if you want to generate together some ideas on how to include even more people, nothing you could ask of me would be any more pleasing!

Worship

Sunday Worship is at **11:00 am**
(indoors and adapted for COVID safety)

Notes on Current, Adapted Worship

We are worshipping in the church sanctuary. We are taking extra precautions now that we are worshipping indoors, with open windows, social distancing, fans etc. *If you come, please:* Bring a mask to wear ***even if you are fully vaccinated.*** We have decided to make this adjustment to our in-house worship due to the Delta variant. We have disposable masks available.

If you need to stay away from the gathering, we understand as we miss you. Worship service video streams at [facebook.com/groups/firstunitedpineplains](https://www.facebook.com/groups/firstunitedpineplains) Video is available there forever, to watch at any time. If you need another way to worship with us while you stay away from the gatherings, please ask Pastor Ryan. Perhaps a DVD you may play at home? Just ask.

* **Sunday, November 7 - All Saints' Day!** Might you bring a photograph, memento, etc. to help us know your loved saints (personal and/or public figures)? Just bring the items, place them at the front of the sanctuary for worship this day, and then you'll take the items back home at the end of the service. Please also consider preceding the worship with news of the saints who have died that you did not name last year (and no trouble if we name them again) by emailing PastorRyanFirstUnited@gmail.com or calling him 518.398.7117.

Sunday, November 14 - 11 am - A Service of Wholeness of Healing in our sanctuary.

Sunday, November 21 - 10 AM! - SPECIAL TIME AND LOCATION! Community-wide Thanksgiving Service AT CHURCH OF REGENERATION (EPISCOPAL) behind our campus on Pine St. Our regular Sunday church service follows at 11 am at our church.

Sunday, November 28 - 11 am - New Tradition! Worship of God with a Hanging of the Greens of the Season!

**Denotes a worship with Communion: All are welcome to bring your own bread and something to drink if that feels safest. Elements are safely-prepared and will be available for all who wish to partake.*

Our Leaders

SESSION: Doug Hart (Clerk), Jeanne Valentine-Chase, Samantha Chase, Scott Chase, Deb Jackson, Jim Jackson, Ryan Orton, Jim Petrie, and Dyan Wapnick.

DEACONS: Marva Blackmar, Lynne Clinch, Dora Hage, Carol Hart, Pam Meccariello, and Amanda Zick.

Next session mtg. is Monday November 8 at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Stewardship

Online giving with Venmo!

1. Log into the Venmo app on your phone or tablet
2. Click "Pay or Request" -- the big blue button at the bottom
3. In the "Add Recipients" box type **@FUPCPP** (stands for First United Presbyterian Church Pine Plains)
4. Select "FirstUnitedPresbyterianChurch Pine Plains" if it doesn't populate automatically
5. Enter how much money you would like to donate
6. Add "what it's for" -- you can do this in emojis which is fun!
7. Click "Pay" on the bottom right-hand side
8. Select your payment method
9. Click "Pay" -- the big green button at the bottom
10. You're all set!

Mission

Council of Churches: Please pray on the possibility of **representing our church** on this council (along with Pastor Ryan), including the additional possibility of serving as secretary for the Council. The next meeting is on Nov. 19 at 10:30 am. at St. Anthony's.

Food Assistance



Willow Roots: Willow Roots is a non-profit community-based food pantry on South Main Street that compliments the Pine Plains Food Locker based at the Methodist Church. Willow Roots began several years ago by Lisa and Nelson Zayas as a way to receive excess produce donated by local farmers and gardeners and distribute to residents who experience food insecurity from around the Tri-state area. Willow Roots doesn't accept state or federal aid and relies exclusively on donations. They currently service 40+ households.

Distribution is every Saturday except the 2nd Saturday of the month.

Pine Plains Food Locker:

The monthly drive items for November are toothbrushes and toothpaste for adults and children.

Toiletries are always welcomed.

Please send \$ donations to the

Pine Plains Food Locker

2852 Church Street Pine Plains, NY 12567

Distribution is on the 2nd Saturday of the month.



Food Pantry
Donations Needed

The Mission Committee (Dyan Wapnick, Jim Petrie, Pastor Ryan, Jeanne Valentine-Chase) met October 19 and several discussion items are highlighted below. If anyone would like to join the Mission Committee or has ideas for future projects, contact anyone who is on the committee!

Thanks,
Jeanne

Christmas Outreach

We will again have our “Mitten Tree” in our sanctuary this Advent Season. This is a long-standing project begun many years ago by our Sunday School teachers and our congregation has continued this tradition. Donations of children and adult size mittens, gloves, scarves, hats and socks are greatly appreciated and will be distributed to Willow Roots and the Community Food Locker.



We will also participate in the “Adopt A Family” project that is spearheaded by Stacey Moore in Millerton. Monetary contributions are distributed by Stacey’s group to families in need in Pine Plains and Northeast. More information to follow!

Local housing issues were also discussed.

Information from Darrah Cloud, Town Supervisor, October 1 newsletter is included here:

The Tri-Town Coalition on **Affordable Housing** is offering training for advocates to learn how to help solve the region’s housing crisis. If you would like to be a part of this, please write Nathan at nathan@neccmillerton.org or call him at 518-789-4259 ext. 129. They write:

- Priority will be given to participants who live or work in Millerton, Amenia, or Pine Plains. Sessions will be held once/month for two hours in the evening beginning in October. All trainings will be held virtually over zoom.
- Stipends of \$30/session are available upon request.
- Stipends will be prioritized for those who do not otherwise receive compensation for their time from an employer or haven't made or a previous commitment to volunteer service for their community. If you are interested in a stipend, please indicate that at registration for follow up. A request for a stipend does not guarantee approval.
- Training provided by the Regional Plan Association with support from the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation Northeast Dutchess Fund.

The Tr-Town Coalition (TTC) unites a geographic area including the towns and villages in Pine Plains, North East, and Amenia as a single voice to attract investment to our region and to address common challenges by combining our resources. The TTC does this in part by providing both information on housing ideas, innovations, and decision-making in our region and a platform for residents to engage with the process. We are seeking those who share our belief that everyone should be able to access housing that is within their means and who want to make that possible.

Events and Committee Meetings

Grab 'n Go Turkey Dinner – Saturday Nov. 13. Curbside pickup will be 4-5:30 pm. Tickets are \$16. You may reserve your dinner by calling the church at 518-398-7117 or emailing Dyan at dyanwapnick@optimum.net. **If you interested in volunteering please let Dyan or Jeanne know.**

Season Teams: Our first Season Team, Advent/Christmas - Epiphany has met and begun planning the music and liturgy for Advent and Christmas. **Do you have any favorite Christmas hymns? Let us know!** This team goes to Sunday Jan 9, 2022.

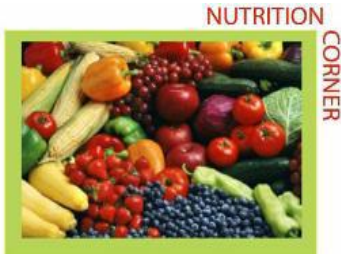
The next meeting of the Advent Season Team is on Monday, Nov. 8 at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Please see Pastor Ryan if you are interested in this or any of the other season teams in our liturgical calendar year.

Thursday, December 2 @ 7 pm - New Care & Communications Committee (all are welcome to join the fun!) We work on how we use our means to spread messages, to reach out to people, plan times of fellowship amongst us, and to make sure everyone has all they need in Christian caregiving.

Calendar

November 2021						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31 11 am - 12 pm Sunday Worship (Church)	November 1 All Saints' Day	2 All Souls' Day	3	4	5	6
7 11 am - 12 pm Sunday Worship (Church) with Communion	8 6 pm - 6:55 pm Advent Season Team Mtg. (Fellowship Hall) 7 pm - 9 pm Session Mtg. (Fellowship Hall)	9	10	11 Veterans Day	12	13 4 pm - 5:30 pm Grab 'n Go Turkey Dinner
14 11 am - 12 pm Sunday Worship (Church) - Service of Wholeness and Healing	15	16	17	18	19 10:30 am - 11:30 am Council of Churches (St. Anthony's)	20
21 10 am - 11 am Ecuemenical Thanksgiving Service (Church of the Regeneration) 11 am - 12 pm Sunday Worship (Church)	22	23	24	25 Thanksgiving Day	26	27
28 First Sunday of Advent 11 am - 12 pm Sunday Worship (Church) - Hanging of the Greens	29	30	1	2 7 pm - 8 pm Care & Communications Committee Mtg. (Fellowship Hall)	3	4



By Lynne Clinch

Attack Plan for Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is just around the corner and I know what that means. Snow is not far behind and I'll soon be in Florida for the winter. But first things first. We have a big family meal to cook. I can remember my mother cooking for everyone years ago. Brings back fond memories too. As it was passed down to my sister and I, it became 'our family time together' with Christmas the time for all the family gathering. In any case, I cook a big traditional meal. As I've become older, I've also enjoyed the prep time with my granddaughter. She can make a mean cheesecake!

The secret for a successful meal is quite simple. Make a menu, then shopping list after all the recipes are gathered. I then decide what I'm doing when if that makes sense. If I'm not making bread or rolls I'll ask one of my daughters in law to bring along with a before dinner snack. The other will bring cole slaw and a dessert....There you go. Four things already taken care of. I make croutons and freeze ahead of time for stuffing. I also like to use fresh or freshly frozen veggies I've done this summer. So decide what sides to have with your meal. It's all in the planning. I already have fresh corn in the freezer. Always have potatoes on hand to mash and will get sweet potatoes for candied sweet potatoes. Will also make a small bowl of squash just because! And don't forget the green bean casserole.

There must be something I'm forgetting. Oh yes; the turkey! The most important part of the meal. Ahhhh, what to do. Cook a whole bird or use turkey breasts. I'm going with turkey breasts this year. I've never brought a whole turkey to the table to carve or one that has already been carved. Not enough room!

Now to brine or not to brine. It's a matter of preference in my opinion. It all depends on if you are grilling, frying or roasting the turkey. Then, if you're spatchcocking it or roasting it whole or if you're using just the breasts. All these decisions to make and we all go back to our tried and true methods. I'm roasting my turkey with stuffing on the side. When I take the bird out of the oven to rest I'll put in the dressing, sweet potatoes and green beans to cook. Cover the turkey. It will keep warm for well over an hour. Make gravy and check the mashed potatoes keeping warm in a crockpot.

Next comes the list to make sure things are as they should be. The table was set the day before and serving dishes and utensils are on the counter. Obviously the salt and pepper shakers were filled and 2 butter dishes ready to go. That check list sure is handy. Won't forget the cranberry sauce as I've done in the past. An idea you may consider is to have your before dinner snack as an appetizer. I can remember Mom serving tomato juice as a drink prior to the big meal. Haven't thought about that in years but worth considering this year.

Let me refresh your memory. Make menu, gather recipes if needed, shopping list, shop, designate your guests to bring foods, make to do list starting with Monday and ending with Thursday. Now sit back and relax because you'll be busy soon enough. What I love is that my daughters in law and granddaughter get up and clear the table. They load the dishwasher, wash the pots and pans and put away any leftovers. I sit and watch. Dessert is next but a little later in the afternoon. Out comes the "very best china and silver"; paper and plastic for that...

There you have it. My attack plan for Thanksgiving. No recipes this month BUT as per usual December issue will be all cookies or candy recipes. So if you have something you want to share pass it along and I will include it. Until next time Happy Cooking.



To add to these prayers, Pastor Ryan is always glad to pray with you (518-398-7117 to find the best ways). If you wish to directly add to the list, please e-mail dyanwapnick@optimum.net

Please remember the following in your daily prayers:
 Jim Smith (Virginia Kemp and Bob Couse's brother),
 essential workers who have died while serving during COVID lockdown,
 our pastor, our congregation, our children, our loved ones,
 and all of those who have lost loved ones in the past year.

Marge Parliman (Shirley's sister), Ron Brandt (Ancramdale), Laura Dennis, Roberta Cerniglia, Steven Hay (Linda's son-in-law), Trang (Linda's friend), John and Piper (Laura's daughter), Lynne Clinch, Ellen White, Shirley and Walden MacPherson, Millie Hinsch (Dora's mother), Ola Yannetta (Linda Wendover's aunt), Liane McGhee (Jim and Margo Jackson), Clifford Thorpe, Carol Foley (Regeneration Church), Marva Blackmar, Irene Dieter (Ancramdale Church), Adalyn Forgey and her family (Carol Hart), Bridget and Aylee, Mort Jackson, Laurena Mesnard, Teresa Maleonski (Marva), Craig Shelley, Joe (Susan), Barbara Gurbel, Randy Burns (Dyan), Jim Fabrizio, Kyleigh Cummings, Millie Sheldon, Bobby Wendover, Victoria Hull (Dot), Carey (Amanda Zick), Ron & Cathy Osofsky, Anthony Silva, Emo #4 (Rosanne's son-in-law's aunt), Lynn (Linda Wendover's sister), Antonio Gonzalez (Dyan), Melissa and Anthony, Gene Jernigan, Chun Ok Blackie (Jim and Margo Jackson's sister-in-law), Caitlin Edge (Deb), Joann Amelio, Debra Rose, Marge (Laurie), Marjorie Bright, Judy MacMorran (Barbara Gurbel's daughter), Debbie (Laurie), Brittany.

Geer Nursing Home: Linda Bartolomeo

Noble Horizons: Lek McNeill, RuthAnn Pulver, Charlie Napoli

Meadows (formerly The Baptist Home): Ron Parliman

The Manor at Woodside: Rod Davis

In the military or Reserves: Pierre Mesnard, Spencer Johnson (Iraq), Patrick Brooks, Garrett Pendleton (South Korea), Lewis and Denzel Jackson (Keith Jackson's sons), Garrett Cummings, Daniele Casazza, Kyle Moskowitz, Matt Cade, Zach McDonnell - Reserves, John Cort, Mark Hall, Jacob Coons, Danny Hoysradt, Brian Montross, Eric Wiltsie (Tom and Renee Strudwick's nephew), TroiHunter Cookingham (Fort Campbell, KY).

And all those who have served in our military.

Share a Blessing!

Next Issue: December 2021

Submission deadline: Nov. 25, 2021

Send submissions to:

dyanwapnick@optimum.net