

**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

There are bound to be hymns and carols that we like more than others. Whether it is because of the words, the melody, the rhythm, or some other reason, some are just more enjoyable to sing for me, and I'm sure for you as well. As a choir member, it isn't easy to lead the congregation in singing a song that you dislike, and yet we must do exactly that.

Which brings me to the carol, "We Three Kings of Orient Are" (#151 in our hymnal). Yeah, you know the one. It comes up every year at this time (I am, in fact, writing this on the day of Epiphany). It was never one of my favorites; in fact, I would go so far as to say I never could stand it. I have always found it plodding (I guess that is the point: the music conveys the journey of the three wise men with their camels across the desert).

Well, this Christmas Eve the choir was to sing it for the Offertory, and as we began to sing I was inwardly cringing. And then something happened. I don't know if it was because of the mystical feeling of Christmas, the flickering of the candlelight in the sanctuary, or something else, but for the first time it suddenly became meaningful to me. I was able to sing it with a feeling I truly felt. I hate to use the word "epiphany" here, but it really was a revelation. I can't explain how, but I don't hate it anymore.

So, I thought it might be interesting to look into the history of this famous carol. John Henry Hopkins, Jr., who wrote it in 1857, was born in Pittsburgh in 1820, the son of the Episcopal bishop, John Henry Hopkins. Hopkins Sr. was something of a Renaissance man (musician, painter, poet, and author, in addition to being a theologian). Young Henry grew up in this intellectually stimulating world, and he explored several different career paths before finally entering seminary and graduating in 1850.

Although he did not become an ordained priest until over 30 years later, he was active in the church this entire time and wrote several carols, hymns, and songs, but "We Three Kings of Orient Are" is by far his most well-known.

He wrote this carol for a Christmas pageant at his old school, General Theological Seminary in New York City, where he had become the music teacher, and it is considered to be the first popular Christmas carol of American origin. Unlike most carol composers of that time who usually wrote either the words or the music, Hopkins wrote both.

Hopkins wrote five verses, to be sung by three male singers (representing the three "kings") singing the first and last verses together as "verses of praise" and singing the intermediate verses solo, each king describing the gift he is bringing, while the refrain praises the wonder and beauty of the Star of Bethlehem. It has been compared to songs of the Middle Ages and also of the Middle East.

The carol is of course based on the story of the three wise men who paid homage to the baby Jesus by presenting him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, as recounted in the Gospel of Matthew and which we celebrate on Epiphany (January 6). Although the carol refers to these men as kings, nothing is really known about them and it is thought they were probably magi (magicians) or astrologers.

Dyan Wapnick

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 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 Jan. 9, The First Sunday after the Epiphany, The Baptism of Our Lord**

Sunday Jan. 16: We will not be worshipping in our sanctuary but encourage everyone to join us at St. Anthony's R.C. Church at 1:00 pm that day for a special community-wide Unity Service sponsored by the Pine Plains Council of Churches.

Sunday Jan. 23, The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Sunday Jan. 30, The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany and our Annual Meeting

**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), Samantha Chase, Scott Chase, Deb Jackson, Ryan Orton, Jim Petrie, and Dyan Wapnick.

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

Our next Session mtg. is Monday January 10, 2022, at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Our Annual Meeting will be on Sunday, January 30, 2022, after worship. Please submit your committee reports to Dyan by January 24.

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

Local 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 January is canned tuna.
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

Support Presbyterian Disaster Assistance's response to December 2021 Tornadoes.

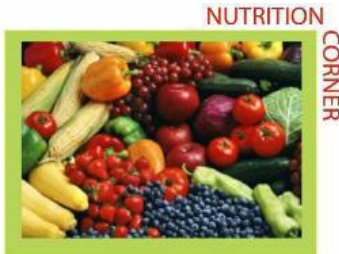
God's people are once again called on to stand in the "GAP" Give. Act. Pray. **GIVE:** Gifts can be made online at: pcusa.org/DT21, by phone at (800) 872-3283, or by check. You can also text PDA to 41444 to donate. **ACT:** [Download](#) and use the bulletin insert; [Gift of the Heart Kits](#) are a hands-on way to help others; register your interest in future rebuilding efforts by e-mailing PDA.CallCenter@pcusa.org; stay informed via Facebook: facebook.com/PDAcares; download resources at pda.pcusa.org/pda/resources.

Events and Committees

"Lent/Easter Season Team - After our first Season Team (we are thankful to Dyan and Linda) was a wonderful success bringing beautiful spaces for worship and being a fabulous help to the pastor and organist, it is time to launch the work of a new one to prepare us and lead us through Lent and Easter. The first meeting is soon. While you may join at any time and on a limited basis, the most fun can be found in full participation. Please let Pastor Ryan know any questions and if you'll join."

Calendar

January 2022						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 11 am - 12 pm Sunday Worship (Church)	27	28	29	30	31	January 1 New Year's Day
2 11 am - 12 pm Sunday Worship (Church)	3	4 7 pm - 8 pm Twelfth Night Service	5	6 Epiphany	7	8
9 11 am - 12 pm Sunday Worship (Church)	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 1 pm - 2 pm Unity Service at St. Anthony's	17 Martin Luther King Day	18	19	20	21	22
23 11 am - 12 pm Sunday Worship (Church)	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 Annual Meeting 11 am - 12 pm Sunday Worship (Church)	31	1	2	3	4	5



By Lynne Clinch

This and That to Start the New Year

I'm writing while looking out at the ocean, trying to decide what issue to address. A review of past issues show that I've addressed resolutions such as weight loss promises that will soon be forgotten or dietary changes that will be ignored after a few weeks. So this article will contain none of that! Instead, I will ramble a bit.

Bob and I are enjoying the weather and friends we've made over the years. We had a wonderful Christmas Day. We enjoyed conversations with family early and shared dinner with friends later. I do enjoy cooking so that made me happy. As a side note there is a saying that you never try a new recipe for a dinner party. That is soooo true! I thought I'd make homemade bread. Found a new recipe; no knead so how easy would that be. Well, it was easy but also looked like a hockey puck when baked. I sliced it, took a bite and promptly put it in the garbage. Bob said if I didn't like it then neither would he. Case closed. Bought rolls and solved that problem.

Ever wonder why some seasonings are called herbs and others called spices? There is a difference and the words are not interchangeable. Most chefs only use fresh herbs and spices but we don't. Therefore, we use the dried version. When that happens and the recipe calls for fresh, always remember to use half the amount of dried.

What are the differences? Herbs are the leaves such as parsley, oregano, thyme and chives. They are above ground. Spices are the roots or bark such as ginger, garlic, nutmeg, mace or cinnamon. Things generally underground or in nut or bark form.

Have you ever run out of cream cheese and needed either a small amount or the whole amount called for in the recipe? Never fear. I have the substitute for you. Recently read this article in the local newspaper discussing this same question. It said one can substitute in the same proportions sour cream, Greek yogurt (not low fat), and Neufchatel or mascarpone cheese without any changes. Cottage cheese can also be used but must be pureed and have either heavy cream or half and half added to increase the creaminess. Also, for those vegans, silken tofu is a substitute but best used in a savory dish. There were several more mentioned, (Quark cheese, Cashew cheese), but the use was doubtful so will skip other than to mention the names.

Ever have a tomato soup salad dressing? Many years ago it was a simple homemade French salad dressing with the recipe published in Good Housekeeping Magazine. I have made it thanks to a quart Mason jar shaker. I did lose the recipe but found it or one similar to it on Pinterest. Here it is for those who want to try something different.

Tomato Soup Salad Dressing

Yield 3 cups

- 1 can condensed tomato soup
- ½ tsp. salt
- 1 c. sugar
- ½ c. cider vinegar
- 1 c. vegetable oil
- 1 small onion minced

Put all ingredients into blender and process. Or put all ingredients into Mason jar and cover with lid. Shake! Shake! Shake! Refrigerate 3 to 4 hours before use. Good over just plain greens. (2 T. is 120 calories.)

101 on label reading:

- Calories equals serving size not whole package
- Nutrients do not have to be listed if less than 1% (1.0 grams)
- Nutrients as listed based on 2000 calorie diet
- List of ingredients in product always starts with most in product
- Ever wonder what the difference is between fat free, low fat and reduced fat. Well Fat free foods have less than 0.5 grams of fat per serving. Low fat foods have less than 3 grams of fat per serving. Reduced fat foods must be at least 25% less than the regular food. Same applies to sugar free or salt free etc. Very tricky but just because it says low, reduced or free does not mean its lower in calories. Prove it to yourself next time you go shopping.

Wishing you all a very Happy, Healthy New Year. Stay safe and will see you in April. Meanwhile, try some new recipes and update the old ones. 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

During the coming week, please remember the following people in your daily prayers: the family and friends of Mort Jackson, Steven Couse, Ron Parlman, Ryan Doyle, our congregation, all our children, our pastor, our loved ones, and all who mourn.

Malachi (17-month old with leukemia), Erica (family friend of the Hages), Ray Wendover (Linda's husband), Darcy (Linda's daughter), Bob Clinch, Marva Blackmar, Laura Dennis, Marge Parlman (Shirley's sister), Ron Brandt (Ancramdale), Roberta Cerniglia, Steven Hay (Linda's son-in-law), Trang (Linda's friend), John and Piper (Laura's daughter), 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), Irene Dieter (Ancramdale Church), Adalyn Forgey and her family (Carol Hart), Bridget and Aylee, Laurena Mesnard, Teresa Maleonski (Marva), Craig Shelley, Joe (Susan), Barbara Gurbel, Randy Burns (Dyan), Jim Fabrizio, Kyleigh Cummings, Millie Sheldon, Bobby Wendover, 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

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.



Hudson River Presbytery Prayer Calendar 2022

As a Presbytery family, we hold each other in prayer – all of us sisters and brothers in Christ. We invite you to lift up prayers for our churches, our staff, and our ministry partnerships, including them in your pastoral prayers each week, and in your church bulletins. The Church is all of us - made one in Christ.

January 2 - Second Sunday of Christmas

Amenia, Smithfield
Ancramdale, First
Church Leadership Connection Staff

January 9 - Baptism of the Lord

Beacon, First
Bedford, First
Synod of the Northeast

January 16 - Second Sunday after Epiphany

Bethel, For Faith Parish
Racial & Intercultural Justice/Presbyterians Affirm Black Lives Matter
Criminal Justice Sunday

January 23 - Third Sunday after Epiphany

Millerton, First
Rev. Dr. Susan De George, Stated Clerk, Presbytery

January 30 - Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Campbell Hall, First of Hamptonburgh
Holmes Camp and Retreat Center

Share a Blessing!

Next Issue: February 2022

Submission deadline: Jan. 25, 2022

Send submissions to:

dyanwapnick@optimum.net