

The First Presbyterian Spirit



JANUARY 2012

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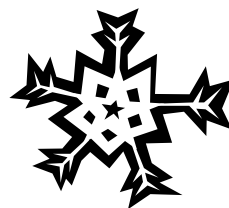
New Church Officers for 2012



On December 4th the congregation elected new officers to fill open seats on Session, Deacons, and Trustees. We also recognize previously elected officers who renewed for a second term. New officers will be ordained and installed on **January 22** in worship. Come and show your support!

Session

Carol Rizzo (renewing) class of 2014
Diana Kruger (renewing) class of 2014
Jon Terry class of 2014
Scott Maar class of 2014
Rick Miner class of 2013



Deacons

Gerry Maar (renewing) class of 2014
Christina Lesniak (pending membership) class of 2014
Shirley Wilson (to be elected) class of 2014
Connie Coapman class of 2014
Priscilla Baglio class of 2014
Ron Miller (to be elected) class of 2012

Trustees

David Hale (renewing) class of 2014
Jason Cring class of 2014
Cindy Mildenberger class of 2014

Thank you for your leadership in this ministry for Jesus Christ.

Check the latest church directory for a complete list of all previously elected church officers.





Message from Pastor Aaron

2012: The Best is Yet to Come!

I write for this month with thoughts of the recent December 4th parade and tree lighting in Brockport. What a glorious first year for the parade! Main street was literally thronged with people between the canal and Sagawa Park. I marched with my youngest daughter's pre-school class with her as a little elf on my shoulders waving a red glow stick and shouting "Merry Christmas everybody" at the top of her little lungs. As I walked by the faces of friends and acquaintances, happily mixed with strangers I have yet to know, I was struck by how neat it was to see all these people from separate church, social and business circles all gathered together with good cheer on their faces in the unseasonably warm weather. The Christmas lights on the floats and trees all added to a magical mood, making the Christmas spirit a tangible thing. I can imagine that this might be what entering heaven might be like – a festive occasion with crowds of smiling faces, both recognized and new – with a climax at the end of meeting not Santa, under a giant lit tree, but of seeing God face to face and being at peace. I am sure the stellar weather had a lot to do with the number of people who came out that night – but I am grateful for all of you who added to the spirit of the night and gave me a glimpse of something bigger.

Epiphany is the third season of our church liturgical calendar after Advent and Christmas. I like that it's the first full season we encounter in our calendar year however. At the time of year when the days are the shortest, Epiphany is a celebration of light. The illumination of Christ – like the proverbial light bulb coming on above the head of a cartoon character – it lights up our imagination with new insight and new possibility of faith. It allows us to believe that 2012 is ripe with potential!

- Potential for our nation in partisan turmoil.
- Possibility for people seeking liberty around the world.
- Potential for a new era of Christian faith.
- Possibility for new vitality in our own congregation.



As I shared on Dec. 4th – the prophets of Israel and Jesus always talked as though the best was yet to come. Difficulty may still be a part of our lives. There will always be challenges. But with challenge comes opportunity. With challenge comes God's presence and God's promise.

I can't think of a better place to be than right here, or a better group of people to face challenges with.

Welcome to a great new year. Welcome to 2012!

Fondly,
Pastor Aaron



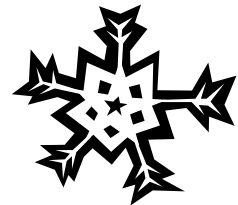


Winter Event

Cancellation Policy

If there is a significant snow event, please tune into Channel 13 WHAM news on-line, on TV, or on the radio to find out if worship, rehearsals or other events will be happening. Decisions for cancellation fall upon the church staff, officers or committee chairs involved. During the week we generally follow the lead of Brockport Schools. So if day classes or evening events are canceled at school, we will do likewise. Generally if there is a travel advisory, we recommend that you stay safe and warm at home.

Pastoral Vacation Coverage



The Doll family is traveling south to spend time with Rachel's parents after Christmas this year! ***We will be gone from Dec. 26th through January 8th.*** Rev. Jack Heister will be filling the pulpit on January 1st and 8th.

If you have a pastoral emergency during this time please call the church office during the week, 585-637-3780 or Elder Anita Mault's cell phone: 585-472-6262. Caitlin or Anita can put you in touch with a local pastor on call. If you would like a visit from the church during this time, please contact your zone deacon or an elder from session in your most recent church directory.

Contacting Pastor Aaron

My office hours will mostly coincide with Caitlin's availability in the church office. This way we can have the building unlocked more often with both of us there.

- **Monday and Wednesday:** 9 am - noon
- **Tuesday and Thursday:** 2 - 4 pm
- **Friday** is my day off. Please feel free to contact me in an emergency however.

Home Visits and Home Communion: Please let me know if you would like a visit, or to receive the sacrament of the Lord's Supper at home.

I am also available by appointment as needed. Monday and Tuesday nights are good times to schedule with me in the early evenings before meetings. Saturday is often a meeting or special event day with Presbytery. The best ways to reach me Friday – Sunday is by cell phone, email, or in church on Sunday.

Please also call my cell phone **585-278-6365** to reach me any time. Please leave a message if I can't answer. I also "text" message, so feel free to exercise your thumbs if you choose!

Feast of the Epiphany Progressive Dinner

Friday evening, January 6 at 6 pm



This is a new special event early in the new year!

We will join the Brockport Downtown Churches on Main Street for a celebration of Epiphany through food, fellowship and some seasonal hymn singing. Our responsibility will be the first course of appetizers and soup. We will provide this “pot-luck” style. Sign up so we can be sure we have enough to serve our guests!

Two sign-up sheets are on the oak table in the Assembly Room. Please let us know if you will be attending the dinner and how many on one sheet. On the other, please indicate if you will be willing to make an appetizer or soup; and, if you know, what it will be.

Appetizers and Soup at First Presbyterian

Main Course (veggie options) at United Methodist

Desserts at First Baptist



In Colonial Virginia, Epiphany, or 12th Night, was an occasion of great merriment, and was

considered especially appropriate as a date for balls and dancing, as well as for weddings. George and Martha Washington were married on 12th Night.

On 12th Night, Great Cake was prepared, consisting in two giant layers of fruitcake, coated and filled with royal icing. Custom dictated that the youngest child present cut and serve the cake and whoever found the bean or prize in the cake was crowned “King of the Bean.”

Upcoming Events from the Congregational Life Committee



**Sunday, January 15 at Noon
Bleak Mid-Winter Pot Luck**

Snow may be falling, the wind blowing and temperatures may be dropping but you'll feel a warm glow enjoying dinner with your Presbyterian friends. Join us in the Assembly Room, bring your favorite winter comfort food dish or dessert to share and kiss the winter blues goodbye.

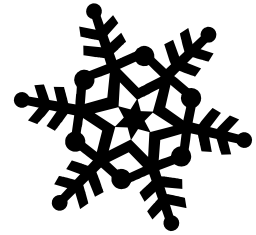


**Sunday February 12 at Noon
Sweetheart Pot Luck Luncheon**

Valentine's Day kindles a loving spirit in all our hearts. Whether you crave something sweet or savory mix up a delicious concoction you will love to share with others as we celebrate the season of Cupid and his arrows with dinner in the Assembly Room.

Aurora House Collection

January is our month!



For January 2012, our church as offered to collect needed items for the Aurora House in Spencerport. We at First Presbyterian are pleased to be counted as one of the many community supporters of the Aurora House.

The Aurora House is a two-bed comfort care home for the dying located at 2495 South Union Street in Spencerport. Their caregivers (including some of our church members), with the support and guidance of nurses, provide loving and compassionate care based on the model of families caring for loved ones at home. They believe that healing, well-being, and positive development can be achieved even in the setting of a devastating disease. Being released from the drive to cure, they are free to realize the potential of the dying process to represent life's fulfillment.

A person comes into the care of Aurora House through the referral made by a hospice agency. Aurora House staff work closely with the hospice team, including the physician, to provide excellent end of life care. All services of Aurora House are offered free of charge through the generosity and compassion of our friends and neighbors. Donations, memorials, grants, and fundraisers allow us to provide this gift to our community.

Volunteers are the heart of the home. Offering a few hours per month or a few hours per week, volunteers provide care to our residents, cleaning, lawn and garden work, event planning, providing meals, graphic art, music, and more. We are always accessible to our community as a resource for information or support and welcome all calls or visits.

Aurora House receives no insurance reimbursement or government subsidies. We rely solely on donations, fundraisers, memorials, and grants.

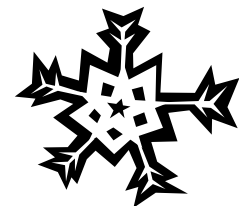
Please watch for upcoming notices of the items needed, to be posted at the end of December.

~Submitted by Outreach and Concerns Committee

Cookie Caper Update and Thank You

The Congregational Life Committee would like to thank you for your baking and buying on Sunday, December 4!

The much anticipated Cookie Caper event was able to donate to the church general fund a grand total of \$229.00! We appreciate all who participated in this event and look forward to seeing you at future Congregational Life activities - they are for you!



~Tom Bowdler, Jim Hastings, Priscilla McAllister, Deb Preston, Lynn Ramsay

Youth Club News and Events

Saturday, December 31 – New Year’s Eve Party – 7 pm to 9 am

Youth in 6th to 9th Grade are invited to attend the party at the home of Scott and Debby Maar, 7598 Fourth Section Rd. Brockport, NY.

Come and join your friends for some great fun and fellowship! You can spend the night or go home Saturday night. Rides to church are available Sunday morning.

Contact Scott or Debby at 391-3672

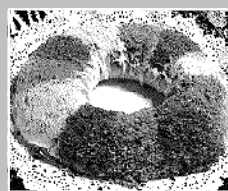
Sunday, January 15 – 3:30 to 6 pm – Youth Club meeting at church

For youth in 6th to 9th Grade.

Sunday January 15–16: 11:30 pm–7:30 am Movie Madness – Grades 6-12

See the presbytery website for information about this youth event: <http://www.pbygenva.org/committees/resedu/moviemadness.shtml>

Contact our church office if you want to register so we can coordinate chaperone’s and rides.



In Louisiana, Epiphany is the beginning of the Carnival season, during which it is customary to bake King Cakes that are round in shape, filled with cinnamon, glazed white, and coated in traditional carnival color sanding sugar. The person who finds the doll (or bean) must provide the next king cake. The interval between Epiphany and Mardi Gras is sometimes known as “king cake season” and many may be consumed during this period.

Youth Music Choirs: Cherubs and Carolers

- Cherubs in Pre-K - 1st grade practice
Sunday morning from 11-11:15 am immediately following Sunday school.
- Carolers in 2nd grade - teens practice Sunday morning from 9:15 to 9:45 am.

Performing dates for Cherubs Performing dates for Carolers

January 29th	February 12th
April 8th	March 11th
May 13th	May 13th

Please be sure to arrive to church by 9:30 am on performance days.

~Submitted by Tricia Crissman, Youth Music Director

Growing Faith

CHILDREN

SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:15-11 am • Lower Hayes Hall • Pre-K to Grade 5

CHILDREN'S CHOIRS

Carolers (2nd grade to teens) practice Sunday at 9:15 am

Cherubs (Pre-K to 1st grade) practice Sunday 11-11:15 am

Contact: Tricia Crissman, Youth Music Director at 964-7926



TEENS

YOUTH CLUB

Sunday, January 15 • 3:30-6 pm • Meeting for 6th-9th Grade

Contact: Christina Lesniak at 278-7450

WOMEN'S CIRCLE

BIBLE STUDY

Monday, January 9 • 9 am • Church Parlor • We'd love to have you join us as we view and discuss the video "Jesus the Suffering Son of God." This is the fifth video in a collection relating to the New Testament.

BREAKFAST & FELLOWSHIP

Monday, January 23 • 8:30 am • 58 Main

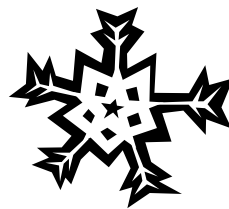
Contact: Sandy Ritz at 352-1784

MEN

BREAKFAST & DEVOTIONS

Monday, January 9 • 8:30 am • 58 Main

Contact: Brian Richardson at 395-9476



ADULTS

BIBLE STUDY

Sundays • 11:15 am-Noon • Church Parlor

Contact: Rick Miner at 964-2081

THE "TUESDAY" LUNCH BUNCH

2nd and 4th Tuesdays • Noon lunch and fellowship at area restaurants.

Contact: Jean Moore at 637-4357

Be an Important Part of Our Sunday Worship

There are many ways you can offer your time and gifts!

Would you like to read scripture? Greet people at the door? Hand out bulletins? Prepare communion? Sing in the choir? Ring hand-bells? Light the Christ Candle? Tell a story? Give a message?

Members and friends, young and old can play a special role on Sundays in these ways. Speak to Pastor Aaron or call the church office to receive instructions and get in on the rotation.

Do you know of someone who would be good at any of these things? Let us know!

Sometimes it takes someone else recognizing God's gifts in us for them to be realized.

Knit or Crochet Hats for Cancer Patients

Wednesdays 10 am - Noon

Sweden Senior Center, 133 State Street

Caps for Chemo is a group sponsored by our church that meets weekly at the Sweden Senior Center to knit and crochet hats for cancer patients.

We also do other items from time to time. Instructions and materials are free.

All ages are welcome and drop-ins are encouraged.



Call Millie Wiegand at 395 0289 if you have questions.

Come and join us for some fun!

Thank You

It is with deep appreciation that I thank my Brockport FPC family and friends for the most generous gift I received upon my retirement as Administrative Assistant at the church. Friendships and family are so important to me and I hold each and every one of you very dear to my heart. I look forward to seeing you after the first of the year. Happy Holidays to all!!

~Marilyn Goodberlet



In Colorado around Manitou Springs, Epiphany is marked by the Great Fruitcake Toss.

Fruitcakes are thrown, participants dress as kings, fools, etc., and competitions are held for the farthest throw, the most creative projectile device, etc. As with customs in other countries, the fruitcake toss is a sort of festive symbolic leave-taking of the Christmas holidays until next year, but with humorous twist, since fruitcake (although the traditional Christmas bread of America, England and other English speaking nations) is considered in the United States with a certain degree of derision, and is the source of many jokes.

Thank you so much for all those who volunteered in November at the Clothing Center... November is a difficult month to request volunteers what with the holidays forthcoming, so the Outreach Committee would like to thank those who answered our calls for volunteers and helped out during FPC's month of staffing at the Brockport Clothing Center:

- Stephen Kittle
- Jim Hastings
- Bonnie Howlett
- Susan Marshke
- Cindy Mildenberger
- Dorothea Mildenberger
- Elaine Rabjohn
- Carol Rizzo
- Carol Sevor.

Helping hands - helping the community!

Thank you so much!

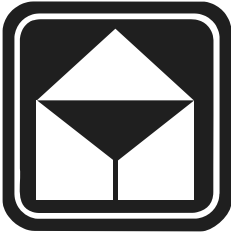
~Outreach and Concerns Committee

Commitment Sunday

Thank you to all who helped with Commitment Sunday and the Harvest Luncheon. It was great to see so many of you that day. Thank you for making your commitments of time, talents, and treasures!

All church families, if you have not done so yet, please fill out your time and talent form and return it to the church. You can place it in the offering plate on Sunday, mail it back to the church, or drop it off at the church office. Thank you!

~Submitted by the Stewardship committee



Please Forgive Us!

The mailing label list used to send out the estimate of giving cards for our "2012 Gifts of Gratitude" campaign were only addressed to one "head of household." It seems our intent of addressing families did not pan out, as we wished, when it came to the specifics of the database system. Please know that we value all the members of your family, and intended the letter and accompanying card to be addressed to both spouses, or all heads of household where appropriate.

PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU DID NOT RECIEVE THIS MAILING.

Thanks for your understanding!

~Rev. Aaron Doll, Pastor

~Scott MacKenzie, Financial Secretary

~Caitlin McGrath, Administrative Assistant

Our Church Calendar Now Available Online!

With an internet connection you may now check our church calendar from our website. Caitlin McGrath and Mary Hastings have worked to make this happen for us.

Go to the church website at:
<http://firstchurch14420.org/>

At the top of the website,
click on the Calendar link
to view the calendar:



Use the toolbar at the top to
navigate through the year:



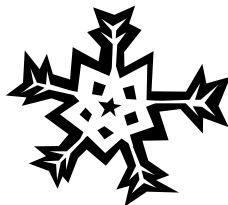
Send us feedback for how this is working!

Thanks so much Caitlin and Mary!

Church Office Hours

- **Monday, Wednesday, Friday:**
9 am - noon
- **Tuesday and Thursday:**
2 - 4 pm

The building may be locked if you visit during Friday hours. Use the doorbells or call ahead so Caitlin will know you are coming.



E-Letter News

Subscribe to the E-Letter mailing list!

Send an email with **Subscribe**
in the **Subject** field to:
hastings@firstchurch14420.org

The Spirit Newsletter

Submit content to Beth Dickinson at
bdickinson@rochester.rr.com; 391-3225;
or in Newsletter mailbox at church

You can also view **The Spirit** newsletter
online on the church website.

Pastoral Concerns

Prayer List:

Occasionally we rotate names off the prayer list who have been on for awhile. Sometimes this is a hard call when there may be long-term conditions affecting a loved-one. We will gladly replace or add any new names. Please speak to Pastor Aaron or call the church office.

Members:

Health concerns: Ileen Preston, Ron and Millie Wiegand, Mary Miller, Betty and Joe LaManna, Charlene Whipple, Beverly Bates, Andrea Rizzo, Alisha Allison. Also, Sue and George Campbell – family health concerns, Holly and Ted Sheehan -- adoption.

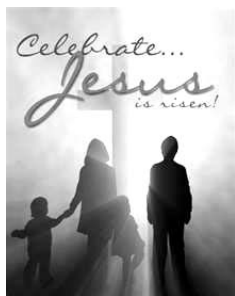
Friends:

Tyler Banker and Ryan Zamiarski, Bruce and Shelly Thompson, Kevin Allison, Gail Behrens, Vicki Howell, father of Jim Hastings, Steven Goodberlet, Heidi Banser, Holly Stewart's brother and family, the Crawford family, Ron Kruger, family of Tim Kimball, Joan Rands, Shirley Sroka, Alyssa Wilson, family and friends of Monika Andrews, Barb Sabatini, Chris and Laurie Winslow, Tom Faulkner, Lynette Bellow, Bob and Ken Strayer, Kalman Toth, Roger and Lynn Richardson, Diane Burritt, Karen Bigger, Gary Hayes, Mary Fessenden, Robin Malone, Graham Andrus, Rex Johnson, Ellen Ricks, family of Mary Ann Dames, Gary Zastrow, Paula Starling-Jones, Sharon and Carl Wheat, Ruth Burgess, Jack Humm, Jimmy Reader, Ken Bibby and family, Beth Wadhams Petrino, Jamie Herrmann, Dr. Emad Phillobos of Cairo, Eduoard Champion, family of Jack Noel.

Active military duty:

Nick Ornt, Danny Tozer, Daric Barkee, Heidi Fyfe Stewart, Chad Brannon, Steven Hampshire, Joseph Storms, Cody Hill, David Hurn.

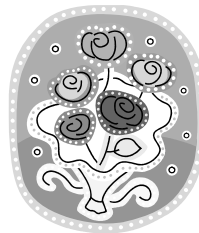
Purchase Sunday Bulletins



If you are interested in purchasing bulletin covers in honor/memory of loved ones for an upcoming Sunday service, please contact the office.

Bulletin covers cost \$14 per week.

Provide Flowers for Sunday Services



Providing flowers for a Sunday service is a wonderful way to celebrate or remember special people or events.

If you would like to provide the flowers for a Sunday service, please sign up on the Flower

Chart outside the church office or call the office during the week.

There are lots of Sundays available.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

35 State Street
Brockport, NY 14420

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZA-
TION

US POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #84



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 9 am - noon
Tuesday and Thursday: 2 - 4 pm

Phone: 585-637-3780

Fax: 585-637-5053

Office email: officefpc@frontiernet.net

Pastor email: aarondoll@frontiernet.net

Church website: www.firstchurch14420.org

Presbytery website: www.pbygenva.org

Presbyterian Church (USA) website: www.pcusa.org

OUR STAFF

Aaron R. Doll, Pastor

Caitlin McGrath, Administrative Assistant

Vicky Miner, Minister of Music

Tricia Crissman, Youth Music Director

Scott Maar, Bookkeeper

Roger Meiers, Sexton