

Ilion Presbyterian News

November 2024

90 Morgan St. Phone 315-894-2070 Fax 315-894-3807

Church email: fpcilion@gmail.com

Church website: www.ilionpresbyterian.com

Facebook page: First Presbyterian Church, Ilion, New York

The First Presbyterian Church of Ilion, through the Worship of God and gathering together, seeks to support each other, to welcome and serve others and to be a faithful presence of Jesus Christ in our larger community.

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To our family and friends at First Presbyterian Church, Ilion: Grace to you and peace.

We are rapidly moving towards the end of year. The sun sets earlier, trees are bare, fields and gardens gleaned. Thanksgiving is only days away. Even on the gloomiest of days and in the moments of wondering where is our nation headed in the wake of the election, this is the season of giving thanks. We have just celebrated All Saints Day, remembering members and mentors, family and friends, who are numbered among the great cloud of witnesses. We commemorate those who served our country, fighting for freedom and peace. We honor the First Nations, indigenous peoples on this continent, and their wisdom, as well as ancestors who came to this new world in hope, willing to make sacrifices and build a more equitable world where all have enough to fully live.

Let this be a time of reflection. For what do we individually and as a community of faith give thanks? The word “thanks” is related to thinking well of others, their gifts, our gifts, God’s gifts and blessings for the flourishing of life. Yet, thoughts alone are not enough. This season of giving thanks is also a season of stewardship. To continue our ministries of worship, nurture, and care, to help the lives of others flourish, requires commitment. We pledge commitments of time, energy and talents, imagination and love, and resources and finances. All that we have and all that we are is a gift from God.

Stewardship is the responsible and generous use of our resources, financial and otherwise. Pledging helps us plan for following God’s purposes in the year ahead. We ask you to prayerfully consider what you can give and do, from your heart in response to God’s blessings, for the wellbeing of our community, our family in faith, and the glory of God.

Pledge cards are available in the sanctuary and through the church office and newsletter. Please return your pledge card by November 17. Pledges will be dedicated during worship that day. Following the service, we will host a potluck luncheon to celebrate and give thanks for your support, past, present, and future. It is the gifts each of us bring that makes our commitment to others possible. In the name of Christ, thank you.

We would like to thank Susan Backus for the seven years she devoted to forming and leading the Class Act Exercise Program. She, and the ladies under her leadership, have been invaluable stewards to this church. We wish her well on her new adventure.

The Session has approved and is working on getting a Wellness Program in place.

Our community meal programs have expanded this year. We have received donations from participants and others who know of the free bag lunches and dinners. We are grateful for the volunteers who prepare the meals, pack the bag lunches and deliver them. We are blessed to have a grant writing team to help further reduce the costs and make food ministry possible. Jan Heap, George Gullis, Carol Okusko and Marvin Nellenback form the team. The money raised towards the meal programs has been remarkable because of their efforts. Most recently, the church received a \$2500 Helpful Harvest grant from the Community Foundation of Herkimer and Oneida Counties and a \$7500 Matthew 25 grant from the Presbytery of Utica. Many thanks to them and to all who give of themselves to this ministry.

Sincerely,

The Mission, Interpretation, and Stewardship Committee

## Prayer List:



Men and women who protect us and our freedoms

Dick Bly Ken Brooks Sharon Chasteen Brianna Nicole Tim Conover Judy Conover Carole Jean Crimmins Jim Crossway Janet Darling Scott Darling Allan Dickinson Jim Doremus Ed Douglas & family Sharon Eaton James Faulks Betty Foor Greg Goodale Dave & Jan Heap Bill & Julie Hulser & granddaughters Susan Jones Izzy Korniat Dick Long Jeffrey Maine Wes Maine George Maley Joe Maneen Joan Matteson Rebecca Mento Claire Miller Henry & Sue Miller Jackie Murphy Marvin Nellenback Peg Olson The Orendorfs Sharon Outtrim Steve Price Patricia Ruller Fred & Jean Sullivan Sue Thuener Utica Presbytery Ed Vennaro

We join Utica Presbytery in praying for: Three Voices Parish; Health Care Chaplain Ministry; Community Wellness Partners (Rev. Victor McKusick); The Center for Jubilee Practice; Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Program (PDA) of the PC(USA)

## **Worship Responsibilities**

|                     |                                  |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| November 3          | Reader— Steve Getman             |
| Rev. Betsy Jay      | Greeter— Anita Smith             |
| All Saints          | Fellowship— Class Act            |
| November 10         | Reader — Anita Smith             |
| Rev. Martie Fischer | Greeter — Carol Okusko           |
|                     | Fellowship — Deacons             |
| November 17         | Reader — George Gullis           |
| Rev. Betsy Jay      | Greeter — Sandy Eldredge         |
|                     | Fellowship— Stewardship Luncheon |
| November 24         | Reader — George Watson           |
| Rev. Cory Jones     | Greeter — Karen Macrina          |
|                     | Fellowship — Deacons             |

**PLEASE BE SURE TO NOTIFY  
THE OFFICE WHEN YOU  
HAVE A LOVED ONE IN THE  
HOSPITAL, OR IN NEED OF**

## **Helpful information for New York State Seniors by Jeanne Williams Bennett**

New York StateWide Senior Action Council is a not-for-profit grassroots organization made up of individuals interested in improving the lives of senior citizens. Did you know New York State has 3.8 million seniors, which is more than the population of 21 US states? (Statistic from NY Senator Cordell Clear, NYS Senate Aging Committee.) The annual convention was held in Saratoga on Oct. 22 - 24, 2024. The convention is packed with quality information that is helpful for seniors. The group's mission is to be a trusted voice for seniors and their caregivers in NYS. The following are some highlights that may be of interest to you.

Congressman Paul Tonko gave a report. He reminded us that the Inflation Reduction Act:

1. Contains tax credits for energy efficient home improvements. Are you thinking of installing new windows, doors, furnaces, hot water heaters, or central air conditioning? If so, you may be able to claim a tax credit. Home energy audits are also included.
2. Allowed Medicare to negotiate 10 drugs for the first time that will save senior households thousands of dollars in out-of-pocket costs beginning on January 1, 2026.

The reauthorization of the Older Americans Act (OAA) was discussed. The OAA provides services to help older adults live independently and with dignity. It included nutritional programs such as meals on wheels, personal care, transportation, preventive health services, family caregiver support, elder abuse prevention, and long-term care ombudsman programs.

Tonko also discussed the Home Weatherization and Energy Efficiency Assistance program (WAP) which can help people with low income save money on heating and cooling costs. For details, go to [usa.gov](http://usa.gov).

Tonko has sponsored several Alzheimer's bills that passed through the House and Senate. The bills concern early detection infrastructure, resources to treat Alzheimer's and dementia, and support for caregivers.

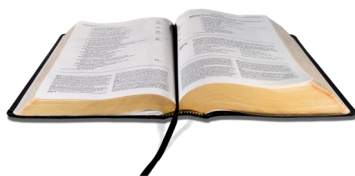
He is also involved in similar efforts to fight Parkinson's disease.

The website for the New York StateWide Senior Action Council is [www.nysenior.org](http://www.nysenior.org).

Jeanne Bennett can answer questions and offer more information. We will continue to share material and opportunities from this and other groups working to "enhance the quality of life for seniors" and all God's children.

## Religious Studies

*Please think about joining the Religious Studies Group. They meet on Thursdays in the church from 1:00—2:30. The material studied and discussed is from the Great Courses with the current discussions focusing on the Old Testament. There is always room for more friends and more discussion!*



### FREE Turkey DINNER

November 14

Turkey, Dressing, Gravy

Mashed Potatoes

Squash

Pumpkin Pie and Beverage

# CRAFT FAIR



**SAT. NOVEMBER 30TH**

**12:00—5:00 PM**

**90 MORGAN STREET**

**ILION, NEW YORK**



## **CHRISTIAN MOVIE NIGHT**

**MORNING STAR METHODIST CHURCH**

**4224 Acme Road**

**Frankfort, New York**

**FREE ADMISSION**

**Refreshments available**

**Show time 7:PM**

**Movie Dates:**

**Nov. 16<sup>th</sup>, Jan 11<sup>th</sup>, Feb 8<sup>th</sup>, Mar 8<sup>th</sup> Apr 12<sup>th</sup>**



This Photo by



## NEW On-Line Ordering Available

You can now place your Food \$en\$e orders online in three easy steps!

1. Visit [foodsense.foodbankcny.org](https://foodsense.foodbankcny.org) and select your participating pick-up location.
2. Select the items you would like to purchase.
3. Pay with your credit or debit card.

**In person cash and EBT/SNAP orders for November can still be placed at:**

Presbyterian Church 90 Morgan St., Ilion on **November 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024** from 10am-11:30 am

**Last day to order On-Line is Monday November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**PICK UP for all orders placed in November will be at:**

Presbyterian Church 90 Morgan St., Ilion, on **Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024** from 10am-11am

Reminder - you can place an order for **Dec.**, when you pick up your **Nov.** order

### NOVEMBER PACKAGE (\$20.50)

Pork Tenderloins, 1.75 lbs. (avg.)

Chicken Breast, 1.66 lbs. (avg.)

Pollock Fillets, 1 lb.

Ground Beef, 1 lb.

Instant Potatoes, 13.3 oz.

Stuffing Mix, 6 oz

Turkey Gravy, 10.5 oz.

Sweet Potatoes, 15 oz.

Whole Cranberries, 1 lb.

Corn, 15 oz.

Fresh Produce #1

Fresh Produce #2

### NOVEMBER SPECIALS:

- **Whole Turkey, 14-16 lbs. (avg.) for \$15.75:** The whole turkey is pre-basted and has a pop-timer.
- **Breaded Shrimp, 3 lbs. for \$13.00:** The shrimp are butterflied, breaded, and 21-25 per pound.
- **American Cheese, 5 lbs. for \$13.50:** The sliced American cheese is not individually wrapped.
- **Produce Box, 18 lbs. (avg.) for \$14.00:** Includes onions (2 lbs.), apples (3 lbs.), carrots (2 lbs.), potatoes (5 lbs.), celery (1 each), sweet potatoes (3 lbs.), and winter squash (1 each).
- **Italian Meatballs, 5 lbs. for \$13.00:** The Italian meatballs are fully cooked and are in a five-pound bag.
- **Stuffed Shells, 3 lbs. for \$7.50:** The stuffed shells are frozen and have 18 shells per special.

**Food \$en\$e Shoppers:** Please remember that sites cannot hold any packages after the scheduled pick-up time. If you have a conflict, give your receipt to a friend and they may claim the package for you or it will be donated to the Food Pantry across from Catholic Charities.

If you have any questions, please speak to the site volunteers when you sign up or call Catholic Charities at 315-894-9917. Thank you.

The First Presbyterian Church  
90 Morgan Street  
Ilion, New York 13357-2260  
Address Service Requested

No. \_\_\_\_\_  
NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

**Financial Stewardship Pledge for 20\_\_\_\_**

Grateful for God's love in Jesus Christ, I (we) make the following commitment to support the mission of the church throughout our congregation, presbytery, synod, and General Assembly.

*For Local Program and Mission:*

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ per  week  month  other \_\_\_\_\_

I will share my time and talents with my church.

Keep this portion as a record  
of your stewardship commitment  
for the year 20\_\_\_\_.

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