

Ilion Presbyterian News

December 2022

Pastor Rick Riggle

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Facebook page: First Presbyterian Church, Ilion, New York

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It hardly seems possible that another year is almost over but here I sit writing another newsletter for December. I sometimes struggle with ideas for the newsletter but never in December. Somehow I always get an idea, (divine intervention?).

I want to say thank you this year for so many things. We have returned to worship in the sanctuary and it seems like the worst part of the pandemic may be over. That is not to say that we don't still need to be careful, we do and we will. But I have learned over the past 2 years that I can count on all of you to be conscientious when we have asked you to. Not every church has experienced that kind of cooperation and so my first thank you is to all of you who sit in the pews and worship with us here.

Our ministries have grown in so many ways. We now serve more lunches than at any other time since I have been here and the lunch bunch just keeps plugging away making sure people have a good lunch a couple of times a week. Our Thursday night dinners have grown beyond my wildest dreams serving over 100 meals on some nights. I look out at the people here on Thursday and I see such a mix that can only happen in a church where people catch the vision. Thank you to everyone who helps with both these missions that do the work that God has called us to.

The Class Act will be starting again the first Monday in December; I am so amazed at how this group has grown together in love and faith. Yes we care for their physical well-being, but there is something deeper going on here. Bake sales and helping around the church are small signs, but there was no greater sign of the love of God than the way these ladies gathered around Susan Backus during Lynn's illness and death. Thank you ladies, and thank you Susan.

Our mission in the community continues to be creative and exciting. The new relationship with Fischer school has been very satisfying and they are so grateful. Thanks to everyone who has helped take Pizza and spent time with those beautiful children.

Finally, I want to thank Judy Nudo for making a Sunday School class a reality again. We have had as many as 10 kids here on Sunday morning and they will be joining us in the Sanctuary starting in Advent. Make sure you greet them and their parents at the fellowship hour.

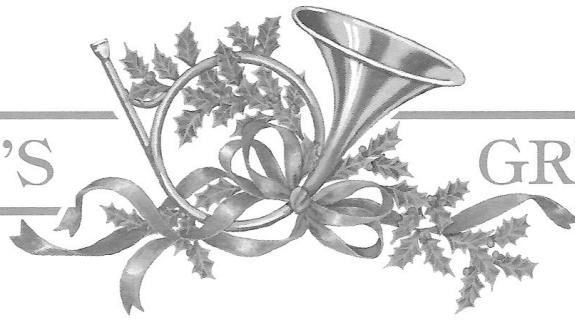
Of course I have to thank the staff here at FPC, who make my job easier in so many ways. Lesa, Susan, Judy, Janet, and Kris. If I don't say it often enough let me say it here, Thank you from the bottom of my heart for everything you do here. You are all truly a gift from God to me and the church.

I wish everyone the most blessed of Christmases. May the Christ child visit all of you with hope, peace, joy, and love.

Merry Christmas,

Pastor Rick

SEASON'S



GREETINGS

## ***“Joy to the World”***

### **Music of Christmas**

Free Concert December 18th at 3:00

**First Presbyterian Church, 90 Morgan Street, Ilion**

**\*Sing-along Carols**

**\*Songs of the season**

**\*Children singing and dancing**

**\*Sparkling piano selections**

**\*Delightful Christmas music on  
the Magnificent Casavant Organ**

Performers to include:

Susan Bartholomew, Jeanne Bennett, Pastor Rick Riggle,  
Martha Regelman, Colleen Schults, Jean Smith, Sunday  
School singers/dancers, and YOU - audience Carol Singers!

**BAKE SALE & BENEFIT BASKET RAFFLE**

0102 Royal Stationery " U.S.A. © 1993

*There will be a basket raffle and ticket sale December 10th  
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. open to the public.....drawings will be on  
December 18th*

## December Worship Responsibilities

- December 4** Reader - Sue Backus  
Greeter -  
Communion Servers -  
Comm. Set-up -  
Fellowship - Class Act
- December 11** Reader - Steve Getman  
Greeter -  
Fellowship - Deacons
- December 18** Reader - Janet Darling  
Greeter -  
Fellowship - The Choir
- December 24** Greeter -  
Communion Set-up -
- December 25** Reader - Steve Getman  
No Fellowship

## Prayer List:

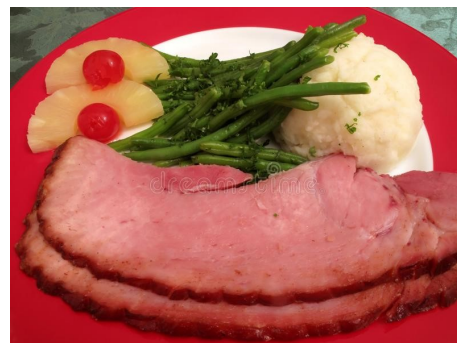
Men and women who protect us  
and our freedoms  
Sue Cate (Marty March's niece) Alice  
Eldredge Crosier  
Brianna Nicole Gary Darling  
Allan Dickinson Barry Doolen  
Dennis Eldredge Betty Foor  
Mike Galvin (Janet's cousin)  
Loren Hughes Bill & Julie Hulser &  
granddaughters, Josline & Paislee Bob  
Jones Don Lamphear Linda Laurin  
Christine Lawrence Barbara Maley  
Joe Maneen Marty March Mike Mar-  
ro Joan Matteson Rebecca Mento  
Laureen Mitchell The Orendorfs Ja-  
net Patterson Judith Pearson (Kim Bi-  
gelow's Mother) Cathy Price Patricia  
Ruller Marian Skinner (Donna  
Pritchard's mother) Jane Smithson  
(Lynne O's mother) Tom Steele (Lesa's  
cousin) Fred & Jean Sullivan Kathy  
Thiery Laurie Voultsios



## FREE DINNERS

December 8 only

Ham Dinner  
Potato  
Veggie, Salad  
Dessert



## CHRISTMAS SERVICES FOR THE MOHAWK VALLEY COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

### **First Baptist Church**

8 Second Street  
Ilion, NY 13350  
Christmas Eve 7pm  
Christmas Eve 11pm  
Christmas Day at Presbyterian Church

### **First Presbyterian Church**

90 Morgan Street  
Ilion, NY 13350  
Christmas Eve at 7:00  
Christmas morning at 10:30

### **United Methodist Church**

Blue Christmas Service December 17 at Morning Star Church in Frankfort Church  
6 pm  
Christmas Eve Service at Morning Star Church at Frankfort Church 5 pm  
Christmas Eve 7 pm at Herkimer First UMC in Herkimer  
Interdenominational Christmas Eve Service at Ilion First Baptist Church 11 pm  
No Christmas Day Services at the Methodist Church

### ***First United Methodist Church of Herkimer & Little Falls***

127 N. Prospect Ave.  
Herkimer, NY 13350

### **Morning Star United Methodist Church (Ilion/Frankfort)**

36 Second St, Ilion NY 13357 (May-Oct)  
4224 Acme Rd, Frankfort NY 13340 (Nov-Apr)

## MIS Notes – December 2022

**Blood Drives:** Our last blood drive for this year was held on November 9th . We surpassed our goal of 17 by collecting 19 units of blood. Thanks to all who donated. Those units have the potential to help save up to 60 lives. In 2023 we will once again have 3 drives, March, July, and November.

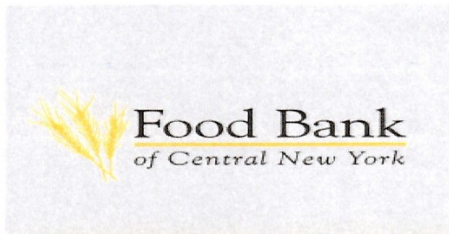
**Bake Sale:** MIS offered to help support the Deacon's gift card fund by co-hosting a bake sale on November 20th . There were many tasty looking goodies available, and as usual, our congregation wanted to and did help the effort. Unofficially, I think over \$200 was raised for the fund. A hearty thank you to all; I hope the goodies were yummy!!

**Catholic Charities Pie Day:** Closely following the bake sale was the annual pie day for Catholic Charities. These pies are included in Thanksgiving dinners that are given out to those who have limited financial resources or to the elderly living in the 2 high rise apartment buildings in Ilion. We baked a total of 34 pies. An enormous hug and an even bigger "thank you" goes out to Carol Okusko, Betty Foor, Diane Lamphear, Karen Macrina, Deb LaMondie, Denise Goodale, and Janet Darling for their help and baking expertise. These ladies made this event possible.

**Class Act Exercise Class:** The exercise class will start back up on Monday, December 5th . I will keep both classes as before; 9:00-9:45 a.m. and 10:00-10:45 a.m. I am anxious to see all "my girls".

On a personal note, I want to express my deepest gratitude and thanks to all my church family. I could not have gotten through the last 2 months without you. I was and am continually being overwhelmed by the many cards, phone calls, texts, prayers, hugs, offerings of food, the many people who helped with food donations and their time for the comfort meal after Lynn's funeral, as well as your willingness to help me in any way possible during the most difficult time in my life. I am and will always be forever grateful to all of you. I love and appreciate each and every one of you. (Thank you cards to follow....)





# FOOD \$EN\$E



*A monthly food buying program for anyone who wants to stretch their grocery dollars*

**SIGN-UP: Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> – Dec. 02<sup>nd</sup>, 2022**

**Presbyterian Church**

**10 am. – 11:30 am.**

**PICK UP: December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**90 Morgan St., Ilion**

**10 am. – 11:00 am.**

**Reminder - you can order for January when you pick up your December order.**

## DECEMBER PACKAGE (\$20.50)

Breakfast Sausage Patties, 12 oz.  
Ground Chicken, 1 lb.  
Ham Steaks, 12 oz.  
Eggs, 1 Dozen  
Breakfast Sandwiches, 14.4 oz.  
Buttermilk Pancake Mix, 32 oz.  
Pancake Syrup, 24 oz.  
Corn Flake Cereal, 7 oz.  
Mandarin Oranges, 11 oz.  
Frozen Strawberries, 1 lb.  
Fresh Produce #1  
Fresh Produce #2

## November Package (\$20.50)

Pork Tenderloin, 1.8 lb. avg.  
Ground Turkey, 1 lb.  
Chicken Breast Portions, 1 lb.  
Marinated Beef Portions, 1 lb.  
Stuffing Mix, 6 oz.  
Instant Potatoes, 6.2 oz.  
Turkey Gravy, 10.5 oz.  
Cranberry Sauce, 14 oz.  
Corn, 15 oz.  
Sweet Potatoes, 15 oz.  
Fresh Carrots, 1 lb.  
Fresh Onions, 2 lbs.

## **December Specials:**

- **Boneless Ham, 5 lbs. (avg.) for \$15.25:** The hams are boneless and each ham weighs on average 5 lbs.
- **Stuffed Chicken Breast, 2 lbs. for \$8.25:** The chicken breasts are stuffed with apples and cranberries.
- **Shrimp Scampi, 24 oz. for \$6.00:** The Shrimp Scampi is a complete meal with linguini pasta and vegetables in a creamy garlic sauce.
- **Lasagna Roll Up, 42 oz. for \$6.50:** The cheese lasagna roll ups are stuffed with ricotta and Romano cheese and are over two and a half pounds.
- **Italian Meatballs, 5 lbs. \$15.00:** The Italian meatballs are fully cooked and are in a five-pound bag.
- **Mozzarella Sticks, 3 lbs. for \$11.75:** The mozzarella sticks are par-cooked and ready for the oven.

**Food \$en\$e Shoppers:** Orders must be prepaid with cash or EBT/SNAP. 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.

**PICK UP DATE: Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022, 10:00am – 11:00am**

Ilion First Presby. Church  
 Phone 315-894-2070  
 Fax 315-894-3807  
 Church email: [fpcilion@gmail.com](mailto:fpcilion@gmail.com)  
[www.ilionpresbyterian.com](http://www.ilionpresbyterian.com)

# December 2022

| Sun                                                 | Mon                                                | Tue                                          | Wed            | Thurs                                                                                                       | Fri                                      | Sat                                                                                             |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                     |                                                    |                                              |                | <b>1</b> 10:30a Lunch Bunch<br>10 – 11:30a Food Sense Sign-ups<br>1p Religious Studies<br>4:30p Choir Reh.  | <b>2</b> 10 – 11:30a Food Sense Sign-ups | <b>3</b> John Bullis<br>Barbara Elmer                                                           |
| <b>4</b> 10:30a Worship Holy Communion              | <b>5</b> 7p AA<br>Tinner Soules                    | <b>6</b> 10:30a Lunch Bunch                  | <b>7</b>       | <b>8</b> 1p Religious Studies<br>4:30p Choir Reh.<br>Free Dinner 5:30-6:30                                  | <b>9</b>                                 | <b>10</b> Basket Raffle Ticket Sale<br>9:00am – 3:00pm<br>Open to public<br>Drawing on the 18th |
| <b>11</b> 10:30a Worship                            | <b>12</b> 10:00Garden Club<br>6:30p B & F<br>7p AA | <b>13</b> 10:30a Lunch Bunch<br>11:00a B & G | <b>14</b>      | <b>15</b> 10:30a Lunch Bunch<br>10 – 11:30a Food Sense Sign-ups<br>1p Religious Studies<br>4:30p Choir Reh. | <b>16</b> Food Sense Pick up<br>10-11    | <b>17</b>                                                                                       |
| Bob Brooks                                          |                                                    |                                              | Molly Canipe   |                                                                                                             | Dick Long                                |                                                                                                 |
| <b>18</b> 10:30a Worship                            | <b>19</b>                                          | <b>20</b> NO Lunch Bunch                     | <b>21</b>      | <b>22</b> NO Lunch Bunch                                                                                    | <b>23</b>                                | <b>24</b>                                                                                       |
| 3:00p Free Christmas Concert<br>7p Session<br>7p AA |                                                    |                                              | Aiden Townsend | 1p Religious Studies<br>4:30p Choir Reh.                                                                    |                                          |                                                                                                 |
| <b>25</b> 10:30a Worship<br>Rick Vacation           | <b>26</b>                                          | <b>27</b> NO Lunch Bunch                     | <b>28</b>      | <b>29</b> NO Lunch Bunch                                                                                    | <b>30</b>                                | <b>31</b>                                                                                       |
| 7p AA                                               |                                                    | Carissa Johnson                              |                | 1p Religious Studies<br>4:30p Choir Reh.                                                                    |                                          | Jean Sullivan                                                                                   |

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

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