



# The View From The Park

A Newsletter of Faith & Community

February 2024

February  
1st Presbyterian Church on the Park  
17 Park Street  
Canton, NY 13617

Phone (315) 386-2570  
www.ChurchOnThePark.org  
Office@ChurchOnThePark.org

## Sundays in February

• **Worship Begins At 10:00 a.m.** •

• **February 4th** •

Annual Children's Communion  
Deacons & Food Shelf Offering  
Annual Congregational Meeting



• **February 11th** •

Transfiguration of the Lord



• **February 18th** •

1st Sunday of Lent  
Name Tag Sunday  
Noisy Can Offering  
Rev. Mike on Vacation  
Chris Remick to Preach & Lead Worship



• **February 25th** •

2nd Sunday of Lent



## Welcome Christy!

We are delighted to welcome **Christy Dekay** as the new Office Coordinator at our church! Christy will be in the office from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. All are encouraged to stop in and say hello to Christy.



**Rev. Michael P. Catanzaro**..... Pastor  
**Pastor Donna Doig, CLP**..... Associate Pastor  
**Andrea Montgomery**.....Church School Director  
**Kathleen Crecco**.....Director of Music & Pianist  
**Christy Dekay**.....Office Coordinator  
**Emily & Kate Ewy**.....Nursery Care Providers  
**Patience Boswell**..... Sexton  
**Cameron Boswell**.....Stream Master  
**Linda Potter**.....Newsletter Editor

**Office Hours: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Tues. & Thursday**

## Annual Meeting

The members and friends of the First Presbyterian Church are hereby called to the annual congregational meeting on **Sunday, February 4th** following worship. We will receive the budget and annual reports, elect officers, and approve the Pastor's terms of call. You also can participate **via Zoom** (see pg. 7 for church's Zoom info). **Your presence at this meeting is very important!!!**

## Annual Reports Available

As part of our Annual Meeting of the Congregation to be held on Sunday, February 4th, the **2023 Annual Report** has been completed emailed to everyone. Hard copies available at the church that Sunday as well).

This report includes **all church activity** from the past year, a **proposed 2024 budget, Pastor's Terms of Call** and **financials**. If you did not receive a copy and would like one, either as an emailed PDF or a snail-mailed hard copy, please contact the church office and we'll get one right out to you.

## Still Time For Per Capita

If you haven't yet paid your **per capita for 2024**, you still have time. Per capita is the amount that the church pays per member to the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly for services provided. For 2023, this is **\$33 per Active Member**. Your donation is **greatly appreciated!**

## Family News

Thanks to **Barry Walch** for repairing the plaster in the hall outside the sanctuary, and to **Pat Mace** for her help in the office (and for cleaning up the table in the back of the sanctuary).

Prayers for **Bill Webb** who was re-admitted to the hospital this week for a stubborn pneumonia. It is a very challenging time for Bill and his family. Cards greatly appreciated; 27 Pine Street, Canton NY 13617.

Prayers for **Judy Gibson** currently receiving from chemotherapy as follow-up to successful surgery. Cards may be sent to her at 35 Riverside Dr., Apt. 3G, Canton, NY 13617.

Continued prayers for Army PFC **Hunter Montgomery**, son of son of **Joe & Andrea Montgomery** and big brother to **Colin**, who is serving our nation in Iraq until late next spring as part of the 2nd Battalion, 15th Field Artillery Regiment. The region of the Middle East where Hunter is serving has recently experienced an increase in aggressive acts; it is a very serious situation.

Prayers for **Vern Aldous** continuing treatments following surgery which require frequent trips to Burlington. It is a trying time for Vern and Arvilla. Cards and communications greatly appreciated; 6171 US Hwy 11, Canton NY 13617.

We are deeply saddened to learn of the death of **Anne Goetze** following a lengthy illness. Please keep **John Goetze**, and his family, in prayer for comfort and strength. Cards appreciated, and may be sent to John at 405 Central Mariner Dr., Edgewater FL 32141. You may view Anne's obituary by clicking [here](#).

**Kim and Lyles Trombly** share their joy in expecting "**Baby #3**" due June 28, 2024! The entire family is VERY excited.



## More Family News

Prayers for **Barry Walch**, and his family, on the death of his father, Allan, at age 98. Cards may be sent to Barry at: 46 Judson Street, Canton, NY 13617.

Prayers for **Nick Scelzi**, a resident of the Canton Nursing home. Nick is having a difficult time and any support or visits would be greatly appreciated. Cards may be sent care of Nick to Maple Wood Nursing Home, Maple 109, 205 State Street Road, Canton NY 13617.

Prayers for **Marilyn Coir** now living at 125 Dover Road, Mills, MA 02054 (a permanent change for her). Marilyn would be *delighted* to receive cards and notes!

Prayers for **Rita Ostrander, Christa Lyon** and **Josh Holbrook** facing health challenges; Janet Favro currently residing at Keene Valley Neighborhood House (Attn Janet Favro, P.O. Box 46, Keene Valley, NY 12943); **Colleen Grant** for healing and wholeness, and husband **Dale** in support of her, (55 Bird Street, Canton, NY 13617); Jody Upton, sister of **Susan Akins**, being treated for a reoccurrence of cancer; and, **Roger McBath**, a resident at the Canton Nursing Home.

Prayers for Scott McLain (father of **Vicki McLain**), Carole Schumann recovering from knee replacement (mother of **Heidi Ames**), Karole Eller also recovering from a broken hip (mother of **James Eller**).

Prayers for **Rich Denison**, now home and recovering from surgery; and his wife **Jeannie** in support of him; **Alice Poole** who continues to confront health challenges; Jane Erickson, wife of Glenn and sister-in-law to **Mark** and **Ray**, recovering from pneumonia (following COVID); and for Peggy Caswell, sister of **Arvilla Aldous**, undergoing treatment for cancer.



## Student News

Bravo for **Jeremy Potter** (son of Kristine and Tom) and **Calvin Bourdette** (son of Cati and Bill Gollinger) playing Modified Basketball at Canton this winter; and **William Andes** (son of Peggy) playing on the Canton J.V. Basketball team; **Sophia Smalling** (daughter of Whitney LaShomb, Granddaughter of Beth Hayes) playing on the Potsdam Junior Hockey Association Mites; **Maria Franklin** (daughter of Jim and Sarah) part of the cast of Canton's Spring musical, "Beauty and The Beast"; Canton Varsity Track Team members **Hannah Ames** (daughter of Heidi and Patrick) running the 600 meter and 4/800 Relay, **Daphne LaPierre** (daughter of Stacie and Patrick), running the 1000 and 600 meter) and **Natasha Rossiter** (daughter of Cliff and April); **Emily Ewy** (daughter of Rob Ewy and Carolyn Zanta) is running indoor track as a member of the Potsdam Central team; **Gwen LaPierre** (daughter of Stacie and Patrick) was selected to All-County Band at Crane on the French Horn; **Olivia Bourdette** (daughter of Cati and Bill) playing on the Indoor Soccer Team in Watertown. **ALL The kids should be very proud of their efforts, in the class room and concert hall, and on the court, stage, track and ice!**

Congratulations to **Colin Montgomery** who recently received an award for "Excellence In Mathematics." Way to put two and two together!



Congratulations to **Drew Franklin** named to the Fall 2023 Dean's List at LeMoyne College; **Emily Bolton** on the President's list at SUNY Potsdam for completing the semester with a **4.0.**; **Emily Ewy** on the High Honor Roll; **Kate Ewy** on the High Honor Roll; and **Rosalie Dekay** on the High Honor Roll! **Way to hit those books!**

## Project Updates

As of press time, **the new sign for the outside of our church is in the process of being installed!** We are waiting on the arrival of one final cable and then we can to "fire it up." Rev. Mike has been hard at work trying to learn the software to schedule messages. Very exciting!!!

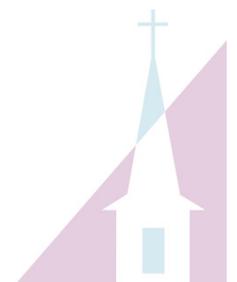


The **new mixer/sound board** for the live-stream has been installed, and we continue to "tweak" the settings to achieve the best quality and levels for those who worship remotely.

We closed on the sale of the **Selleck land** at the end of January, and our church is in receipt of the proceeds, **\$49,358!** This money has been earmarked for the refurbishment of the room under the sanctuary (old C&CP Thrift Shop) for the children and youth of our church (more on that to follow). In honor and memory of Fred and Helen Selleck, this kid's space will be named "The Selleck Room."

## Steeple Grant Received!

We are overjoyed to learn that our church has recently been awarded a **\$25k** grant from the Northern New York Community Fund for repairs to the steeple roof! Great and particular thanks to **Heidi Ames** for writing the grant application; and to **James** and **Anna Eller** for their contribution. The Facilities Committee will be working to secure a contractor so work can begin this spring.



## Church Attendance

	In-Person	Stream	CS
January 7	39	50	10
January 14	1	71	No CS
January 21	42	40	6
January 28	56	44	8

Average In-Person Attendance: 35

Average Live-Stream Attendance: 51

Average CS Attendance: 8

## Treasurer's Report

	Operating	Mission
December 31	\$ 590.00	\$ 0.00
January 7	\$4,376.00	\$ 272.00
January 15	\$8,250.00	\$ 58.00
January 21	\$13,555.35	\$ 100.00
January 28	\$6,622.00	\$1,630.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$33,393.35</b>	<b>\$2,060.00</b>

## Church School News

The kids had a **great time** putting on the pageant! In **January** and **February**, we have continued to learn about various **Bible stories** and **themes**. Each class, we incorporate a **lesson**, **book reading**, **color** and/or **craft** activity and a **game** as time allows. They seem to all be having a great time. A key component to our lessons is to first of all make it **fun!**



Secondly, I relate the **themes** we are reading about to their own lives. We talk about **issues** and **struggles** they may be facing; as well as **thanking God** for the **abundance** of goodness in our lives. It is important to be **grateful** and appreciate the many blessings we have; especially in these hard times. Their assignment each week is to perform an **act of kindness** for another and come back the following Sunday to share with the class.

**Andrea Montgomery,**  
Church School Director

## Officers & Committees

### Elders On Session

To strengthen and nurture the faith and the life of the congregation.

Joe Montgomery Patrick LaPierre Rob Ewy  
 Patricia Mace Barry Walch Jim Franklin  
 Beth Hayes Heidi Ames Pat McGuire  
 Michelle Quinell-Gayle Michelle Theisen  
 Patricia Mace - Clerk Of Session

### Board of Deacons

Ministering to the sick, those in need, the friendless, and those in distress.

Christa Lyon Georgia Vose Mark Brackett  
 Susan Akins Jane Cable Stacie Olney-LaPierre  
 Jean McGuire Ellen Grayson  
 Secretary Moderator  
 Ray Erickson, Treasurer *Ex Officio*

### Committees

### Chairs

Resources Jim Franklin  
 Responsible for managing and dispensing funds to fulfill the mission & ministry of our church.

Facilities Barry Walch, Joe Montgomery & Beth Hayes  
 Responsible for the maintenance and use of all church property.

Fellowship Ellen Grayson, Pat Mace & Beth Hayes  
 Responsible for all fellowship events.

Nominating Jim Franklin, Mark Brackett, Beth Hayes - Chair  
 Responsible for filling Session, Deacons & Offices.

Church School Michelle Quinell-Gayle  
 Responsible for growth, nurturing & learning.

Worship Michelle Quinell-Gayle & Rob Ewy  
 With pastor, responsible for worship.

Communion Pat Mace & Vicki McLain

Stewardship Heidi Ames & Patrick LaPierre  
 Responsible for securing resources and energy to fulfill the mission & ministry of our church.

Mission Michelle Theisen  
 Helping our church, community and world.

Treasurer Mary McGreevy

Financial Secretary Barry Walch  
 Asst. Financial Secretary Anna Eller

C&C Program JJ Jockel, Sean Boutin & Michelle Theisen

Personnel Pat Mace, Michelle Quinell-Gayle Patrick LaPierre

# The Pastor's Report

Welcome February!

It is always amazing to me how February, more than any other month of the year, is so fraught with hopeful expectation. While it may be *just* February, it means that we've survived the long slog that is January and now, seemingly, spring is finally on the way if not yet around the corner. All this is to say that how we look at things depends very much on where we are standing.

This month I would like to speak to the issue of where we currently stand with the children and young families of, and in our church. For so long our church, like just about every other church, has sought to welcome kids, youth and their families. Such a posture is to be expected as we recognize, intellectually, that among these children and parents lies the future of our church (and any/every church).

In many ways, however, this new place where we find ourselves standing is *completely* new ground: namely, that we have a *plethora* of families with school-aged children who call the Church on the Park their spiritual home. This as exciting as it is remarkable, and a real tribute to this congregation working slowly, but doggedly, to create a welcoming space for young families. Metaphorically, we have survived the "January" time in the history of our church and look expectedly to a lovely and life-restoring spring.

Now comes the tricky part: what to do with these kids now that they are here? The most immediate answer is, "more"; the specifics of this, however, have yet to come into focus. They will, however, because they *must*. To start moving us down this road a bit, I'd like to make an observation and, then, a request.

My observation is that it is increasingly and stunningly challenging to raise a family. There are so many forces at work in society, both overt and subtle, that line-up against children and young parents these days that the church must be THE place they can come to for support, encouragement and guidance. Moreover, as a church we must relearn, or learn anew, *how* to help families meet these challenges because, frankly, we've fallen out of practice and, in some ways, out of touch.

Now the request. Having closed on the sale of the Selleck land and with funds available for the creation of a room *specifically* for the kids and youth of our church, we begin to consider what this space will be; both in form and function. We are starting a small working committee to explore what the *kids* would like, as well as what parents desire. I would ask *everyone* to start to imagine what *you* think we should do. As my mother always said, "Raising children is the hardest job you'll ever love." We've got the the love, now let's get going on the work; for this generation and those to follow. - Rev. Mike

**The  
Hardest Job  
We Will  
Ever Love.**

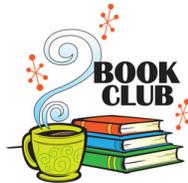
## Women's Circle

Women's Circle will meet on **Wednesday, February 14th** at **7 p.m.** in Lorna's Lounge. All women of the church are welcome. If you are able to attend, contact **Linda Potter** at [nautilus@twcny.rr.com](mailto:nautilus@twcny.rr.com).

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## Evening Book Group

The Evening Book Group will meet on **Tuesday, February 27th** at 7 p.m. in Lorna's Lounge to discuss ***The Girl You Left Behind*** by Jojo Moyes with the discussion led by **Georgia Vose**. All are welcome.



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## Deacon's Offering

The Deacon's Offering is the **first Sunday** of every month. This is a vital component of our church's work and mission. Please remember to send along a contribution to the Deacons along with your pledge or regular offering. **Thank you!**

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## Childcare For Choir

If anyone is interested in possibly provided childcare (paid) for either/both of the weekly practice times (**Thursday** evenings at 6:30 p.m., **Sunday** mornings 9 a.m.) please see Rev. Mike.

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## eNewsletter

If you received a hard copy of this newsletter in the mail but have an email address to which it could be sent, please contact [RevMike@ChurchOnThePark.org](mailto:RevMike@ChurchOnThePark.org)

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## Church Closing Info

In the event of inhospitable weather, notice of the cancellation of our worship service will be emailed to the congregation and listed on WWNY-TV and NCPR radio.



## Virtual Worship & Fellowship

For live-streaming, fellowship, bulletins, sermons newsletter and other resources, **begin by bookmarking the church website:** [www.ChurchOnThePark.org](http://www.ChurchOnThePark.org). "Click" on the relevant link at the top of the page.

A **live-stream** of the worship service is on the church's YouTube Channel. Go to [www.ChurchOnThePark.org](http://www.ChurchOnThePark.org) and click on "YouTube Channel." You can choose to subscribe to our channel or simply go to this link each week.

**Zoom Fellowship** calls each Sunday from **11:30 a.m. to Noon** for fellowship only with no format or moderator. If needed, download the ZOOM app ahead of time by clicking on this link (free):

<https://zoom.us/download>. Once you have the Zoom app, go to [www.ChurchOnThePark.org](http://www.ChurchOnThePark.org) and click on "Sunday Zoom Meeting". You will be asked to enter a password which is **3862570** (the phone number of the church). The meeting will automatically begin at 11:30 a.m. & end at 12:45 p.m.

**Worship bulletins** are posted earlier in the week to the church website for those worshipping virtually through the stream on our YouTube channel. This will allow everyone the opportunity to follow the liturgy, and see the announcements and prayer requests. Go to [www.ChurchOnThePark.org](http://www.ChurchOnThePark.org) and click on "Sunday Bulletin."

**Written sermons** continue to be emailed, or snail-mailed, on *Tuesday* to everyone each week; as well as being posted to the church website. Go to [www.ChurchOnThePark.org](http://www.ChurchOnThePark.org) and click on "Written Sermons."

The monthly **Newsletter** will continue to be emailed to most, and snail-mailed to a few; as well as being posted to the church website (click on "Newsletter").

# **FEBRUARY** Birthdays

- 1 Jonathan Witherhead
- 3 Debra St. Hilaire,  
Andrew Sutherland
- 5 Heidi Ames, Patrick LaPierre
- 7 Natasha Rossiter;  
Mikey Athanasakis
- 8 Scott Smalling
- 10 Johnny Mousaw
- 11 Michelle Theisen
- 12 Clifford Rossiter
- 13 Marilyn Coir
- 14 Hannah Powers,  
Andrea Montgomery
- 15 Terisa Billings
- 16 Patrick Dean
- 17 Elliott Rodee, Matt Gayle
- 19 Arvilla Aldous; Vanessa Mousaw
- 20 Isabelle Powers, Thomas Potter, Jr.
- 21 Emily Dawley, Sarah Franklin
- 22 John Miller III, Bill Gollinger
- 23 Hope Irene Bethel, Lora Gibson
- 24 Luke Elvy, Corinne Duda
- 25 Nancy O'Shaughnessy,  
Rob Ewy, Kevin O'Connell
- 28 Melissa Compeau, Curt Ross,  
Josh Smith

Contact the church office with your birthday so we can keep our list current!

## Saving Grace

He who fails to give, fails to live.  
 The more you give, the more you live.  
 Give, give, give; always be giving.  
 Give strength, give thought,  
 give deeds, give wealth;  
 Give love, give tears,  
 give time, give self.  
 Give thanks to God  
 whose word has said,  
 Give thanks each day for daily bread.

## Mary Goes to Washington

At the end of January, Mary Rodee was in attendance at the Senate Judiciary Committee hearing featuring CEOs from major social media platforms who addressed their companies' roles in safeguarding children online. Mary, and too many other parents, issued a call for passage of the Kids Online Safety Act (KOSA). You can read the article on the NCNow website by clicking [here](#), and watch the nationally televised interview with her on FOX news [here](#). Please keep Mary in prayer as she endeavors to move mountains to protect our children.

## February Lectionary Readings

### Sunday, February 4

Isaiah 40:21-31; Psalm 147:1-11, 20c  
1 Corinthians 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39

### Transfiguration of the Lord - Feb 11

2 Kings 2:1-12; Psalm 50:1-6  
2 Corinthians 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9



### First Sunday in Lent - February 18

Genesis 9:8-17; Psalm 25:1-10  
1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15

### Second Sunday in Lent - February 25

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; Psalm 22:23-31  
Romans 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38

## Way To Go Santa!

During the Children's Sermon at the Christmas Eve morning worship service, young **Hunter Fiese** was *quite* specific about his wish list for Santa, hoping *mightily* for "a castle with a dragon on top." The entire congregation is relieved to learn from parents **Marshall** and **Katie** that "Santa came through!" and were pleased to share a photo of their very happy son on Christmas morning! You gotta believe!



## Prayer Warriors

Would you like to help your neighbor, stretch spiritually and be a part of the mystical movement of the church? We are always looking for new prayer warriors to join the church

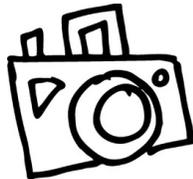
**Prayer Chain** to offer prayers for folks who are ill, troubled or in need.

If you want to learn more about the prayer chain, call **Rev. Mike** at 386-2570 or **Wanda Renick** at 386-3474.



## Photo Directory

Our Photo Directory is no longer available online through the website. If you would like a copy (print or digital), please contact Rev. Mike or the church office and we'd be happy to send one with you. We endeavor to keep the photo directory as up-to-date as possible. If you find that you have been inadvertently omitted, would like to be included or would like a retake, please contact **Rev. Mike** or **Keli Hollis**. Updates easily done.



## Presbyterian Worship

The next **Partridge Knoll service** is on **February 7th** and will continue through the winter on the **1st Wednesday** of the month at **11:00 a.m.** You are welcome to join us!



## Like Us On Facebook!

The Church On The Park has a **Facebook page** which changes regularly - <https://www.facebook.com/TheFirstPresbyterianChurchonthePark>

## Church Website



Our Website is updated each month and is a great way to stay a part of the life of the church. If you have questions about, or contributions for the website please email Rev. Mike or the church office.

The Church's email address: [office@ChurchOnThePark.org](mailto:office@ChurchOnThePark.org)

Reverend Mike's email address: [RevMike@ChurchOnThePark.org](mailto:RevMike@ChurchOnThePark.org)

## Sermons & Services

**Written Sermons** in PDF format are now available for viewing or downloading on Monday at [www.ChurchOnThePark.org](http://www.ChurchOnThePark.org) then click on "Written Sermons."

If you'd like to have a copy of the weekly sermon emailed or snail-mailed to you directly, please contact [RevMike@ChurchOnThePark.Org](mailto:RevMike@ChurchOnThePark.Org).

To view recordings of previous worship services, please subscribe to our [YouTube channel](#).

## Newsletter Deadline Is The 15th Of The Month

We are still sending out the monthly newsletter! Please submit articles (emailed preferably) to the church office, or directly to the Newsletter Editor, Linda Potter, at:

[nautilus@twcny.rr.com](mailto:nautilus@twcny.rr.com)

## Hello, my name is...

Remember - **Name Tag Sunday** is **February 18th**.

Come early to church and make your own name tag.  
**Get to know your neighbor.**

## Showers In The Forecast!

Folks, this month our congregation is invited to contribute to **“Card Showers”** for John Miller (brother of Lynn and Holly Miller) and Dave Pierce (father of Kristine Potter).

**JOHN M. MILLER, III IS TURNING 70!!!** John’s sisters, Holly and Lynn, would like to invite his church family to participate in a “Card Shower” they are throwing for him (in lieu of a party, which he simply won’t abide). Please send cards to: John Miller % Holly Miller, 115 Belview Drive, Rochester, NY 14609. Holly will collect the cards and give them to him all at one so it will be a surprise. They are asking for our help in making this a great 70th birthday for John! His birthday is February 22nd, so **please get your card in the mail by February 15th at the latest.** Thank you!

On **February 16th, David Pierce will celebrate his 90th birthday.** Let's surprise him and fill up his mailbox with cards and letters to help him celebrate this milestone. Since he doesn't get out of the house much anymore, getting mail will certainly make his birthday week extra special. His address is: David Pierce, 58 McGowan Road, Ogdensburg, NY 13669.

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## Jazzing For C&CP

Thanks to all those who helped support the recent Church & Community Program **Jazz Night Fundraiser** hosted by the UU church. Over **80** food items were collected, as well as generous cash donations, to help keep feed our neighbors in need. Pictured, (the esteemed) Tim Savage, John Danis, **Sean Boutin** (Board Rep), **Lachlan** and **Kristin McKie.**



## All-Church ReadS!

For this year’s All-Church Read, we are going to dig a little deeper and try something new in selecting **THREE** books all with the same theme of *seeing people and being seen by others, and learning to listen and ask better questions.* Given this, we are getting an early start on gifting and sharing these selections.

Owing to the number of kids in our church, and the wide age range they represent, we feel it is important to try to meet kids “where they are at.” The **younger kids will be receiving a copy of Noticing**, written by Kobi Yamada and illustrated by Elise Hurst, “This is a story about noticing the little things, the grand big things, the imaginary, and sometimes, hidden things. It is about embracing what’s possible. The incredible is everywhere, and in everything - waiting to be known, discovered and recognized.”

**“Tweeners” and older teens will receive a copy of Jerry Spinelli’s Stargirl.** “After 15 years of home schooling, Stargirl bursts into tenth grade in an explosion of color and a clatter of ukulele music, enchanting the Mica student body. But the delicate scales of popularity suddenly shift, and Stargirl is shunned for everything that makes her different.”

While the adults are certainly welcome to read the selections for the kids, the **adults will be reading How To Know A Person: The Art of Seeing Others Deeply and Being Deeply Seen**, by David Brooks. The church will be purchasing 4 copies of this book to be shared, and there are three copies, two large print copies and one audio book available through the North Country Library System (i.e., place a hold asap). Somehow, Rev. Mike will be pulling together all three of these books as part of the sermon on **Sunday March 17th**, All-Church Read Sunday.

## Noisy Can Mission (Accomplished!)

On January 21st, an intrepid group from our congregation did our church's monthly shopping to help stock the **Church & Community Food Pantry**. Using proceeds from our **Noisy Can Offering**, this month we purchased **soup, oatmeal and potatoes** to bless people in need in our community. Five bags of **apples** will also be added to our C&CP food donation from Price Chopper.



We had fun together and the children were wonderful in selecting food at good prices and thinking of people's needs. We prayed over the food together in the Walmart produce section after all the food was in the cart. We prayed that this food purchased with our church family donations will greatly bless others and show them God cares for them, and that they will thank the Lord for his provision. - **Michelle Theisen**



## Twin Beds Needed

A family in our congregation is looking for gently used twin beds (mattress and box spring). If you have one you are no longer using and would like to move it on to a good home, please see **Rev. Mike**.

## Bequests

Recently, our church received two bequests totaling **\$17k** from the estates of two families who belonged to our church. These are amazing gifts of **generosity** which were **completely** unexpected, and are a tremendous boon to the work and mission of our church. Please consider including our church when doing your **estate planning**; even a modest gift will make a significant impact as they bolster our reserve funds (the interest from which is used to meet our budget deficit each year) and, at times, allows us to be able to do things beyond what we would have been able to do otherwise.

The past few years has seen our church make great strides in **physical upkeep** of our building and facilities so as to keep pace with our growing congregation. One significant endeavor for which we will need to start preparing is a **"spruce up"** of the **manse** on both the inside and the outside in anticipation of calling a new pastor and his/her family; not imminently, but inevitably. If you are interested in helping to make this happen, please speak with **Rev. Mike**.

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## Brick Chapel News

Brick Chapel **neighbors** and **friends** are invited to join together for a **monthly potluck** for fellowship and fun: **Saturday, February 10th** at 5 p.m. and Saturday, **March 9th** at 5 p.m. These events will be held at "Saphead", 5355 CR 27 Canton. Bring a dish to pass and get to know some new folks and see old friends. Hope you can join in the fun. - **Mary Rodee**

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## Way To Go!

Congratulations to **Kathleen Crecco**, our music director, who has been accepted to the Crane School of Music faculty for the spring semester as a **collaborative pianist**.

# MY, HOW OUR GARDEN IS GROWING!



**SOPHIA SKATES**



**LIL LACHLAN  
LAUGHING**



**ROSIE  
TURNS TWO**



**OLIVIA IS  
ON-SIDE**



**COURTING  
CALVIN**



**... SILLY SIS  
AUDREY**

**LINCOLN  
LOVES...**



**WALTER WANTED  
WAFFLES FOR HIS  
BIRTHDAY B-FAST**



**JANE JAMMING  
HER SUNBEAM  
SMILE**



**ALINA & HER  
ALPACA  
HAT**

# February 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 National Kazoo Day 10:00AM Church School 11:15AM Church Fellowship Zoom Meeting	29 7:00PM Session	30	31	1 6:30PM Choir Practice	2 Groundhog Day	3
4 Annual Meeting Communion Deacon & Food Offering 10:00AM Church School 11:15AM Church Fellowship Zoom Meeting	5	6 11:00AM PK Service	7 11:00AM PK Service	8 4:15PM C&CP Board Meeting 6:30PM Choir Practice	9	10 Lunar New Year 5:00PM Brick Chapel Podluck
11 Transfiguration Sunday 10:00AM Church School 11:15AM Church Fellowship Zoom Meeting	12	13 Ash Wednesday Valentine's Day 7:00PM Women's Circle	14 Ash Wednesday Valentine's Day 7:00PM Women's Circle	15 Newsletter Deadline 6:30PM Choir Practice	16	17
18 Name Tag Sunday Noisy Can Offering Rev. Mike Off 10:00AM Church School 11:15AM Church Fellowship Zoom Meeting	19 Presidents' Day	20	21	22 5:45PM Deacons Meeting 6:30PM Choir Practice	23	24
25 2nd Sunday of Lent 10:00AM Church School 11:15AM Church Fellowship Zoom Meeting	26 7:00PM Session	27 7:00PM Evening Book Group	28	29 6:30PM Choir Practice	1	2

The 1st Presbyterian Church, on the Park  
17 Park Street  
Canton, NY 13617

Address Service Requested

The Church is charged for every returned Newsletter. If you have moved, or changed a seasonal address, please notify the church office. Thank you.



**LENT BEGINS**

**Annual Meeting - Feb. 4th**  
**Welcome Christy!**  
**Projects Update**  
**Family News**  
**Steeple Grant Received!**  
**Church School Report**  
**Student News**



**The Mission of the First Presbyterian Church of Canton to reach out to all people and welcome them in celebrating truly the joys, freedoms and responsibilities that come with our faith in God, Christ's unconditional love for us, and the power of the Holy Spirit to transform our world.**  
**Through this nurturing Christian Community we will fully recognize the value of each believer, humbly forgive ourselves and others, and lovingly embrace God's Grace.**