



The View From The Park

A Newsletter of Faith & Community

November 2025

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

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

Sundays in November

• **Worship Begins At 10:00 a.m.** •

• November 2nd •

Pledge Sunday
Communion
Deacons & Food Shelf Offering
Daylight Saving Time Ends
(Turn clocks back Saturday night!)



• November 9th •

Baptism - Stella Russ
Deacon's Meeting



• November 16th •

Noisy Can Offering
Name Tag Sunday
Gift Bibles for Kids



• November 23rd •

Rev. Mike on Vacation
Laurinda Stockwell To Preach
Christ The King Sunday
Greening Of The Church after Worship



• November 30th

First Sunday of Advent
Farm Family Offering



Rev. Michael P. Catanzaro..... Pastor
Pastor Donna Doig, CLP..... Associate Pastor
Andrea Montgomery..... Church School Director
Mark Darou..... Choir Director & Pianist
Christy Dekay..... Office Coordinator
Emily & Kate Ewy..... Nursery Care Providers
Patience Boswell..... Sexton
Cameron Boswell..... Stream Master
Linda Potter..... Congregational Coordinator

Office Hours: 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. Tues. & Thursday

Pledge Sunday

Pledge Sunday will take place on **November 2nd**. In the mail, you should have received an **appeal letter, Stewardship brochure** and your **pledge card**. A pledge card is also on **page 10** and additional cards will be at the church on November 2nd. The Stewardship Committee and Session ask that you **prayerfully consider how our church supports you** and your family, our community, and world, and how you, in turn, **can support the work and mission of our church**.



Contact any member of the Session or Rev. Mike with any questions. Please return the pledge cards as quickly as possible so we may begin to plan **our budget and programs for 2026**.

Thanks to everyone (near and far) for their **continued support** of the First Presbyterian Church on the Park!

Holiday Of Lights

On **Friday, November 28th**, families can enjoy a **tree lighting, caroling, wagon rides** and a **visit with Santa** in the park. Our church's Fellowship Hall will once again be the location of the **hot chocolate** and **cookies** served for this Holiday of Lights celebration. **Volunteers are needed** from **5:30 - 7:30 p.m.** to greet families and pass out cookies and hot chocolate. Call or text **Beth Hayes** at (315) 244-7902 if you can help.

Family News

Why do we say “amen” at the end of prayers rather than “awoman?” Because we sing “hymns” and not “hers.” (Thanks to our church’s master of the corny joke, David Hornung).

Bill and **Karen Parker** have a new address: 578 SH 11B #37, Potsdam, NY 13676. Bill is recovering well from his heart surgery and sends thanks for all the prayers, cards, and support.

Prayers for **Jane Cable** on the death of her brother, John Mark, who died peacefully on October 22nd surrounded by loved ones, at a wonderful Hospice Home. He faced his illness with grace and courage, especially as the end neared. Jane is so very grateful for all the prayers this group has provided throughout his journey. Cards may be sent to Jane at 3236 Stoney Creek Dr W, Williamsburg VA 23185.

Prayers for **Toby Walch** (son of Barry) and his wife, Julie, and their children as Toby was seriously injured in a bicycle accident. He suffered fractures to his face, skull, arm, wrist and rib. Thankfully, there does not appear to be any permanent damage. However, he is facing a long and painful recovery. Cards appreciated! 6 Fairway Dr. Scarborough, ME 04074. Though long since having moved from Canton, Toby is a child of our church and was the student representative on the search committee which called Rev. Mike and Linda to the church.

Bob Fraser is now living with his daughter, **Karen McAuliffe**, and her husband, **Joe**, at 49 Bird Street, Canton NY 13617. Cards welcome. Call ahead to Bob on his cell phone regarding visiting (315) 323-8416.

Prayers for **Colleen Grant** and **Dale** in support of her; **Wayne Miller** facing health challenges (241 Eddy-Pyrites Rd. Canton NY 13617).

Family News - cont.

Prayers for **Carolyn O’Connor** at an assisted living facility near Boston (216, 276 Whiting Street, Hingham, MA 02043).

On-going prayers for **Lew Shepard** and **Marilyn Coir** in their days; **Rich Denison** who continues to face health concerns, **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); **Nick Scelzi** and **Wanda Renick** residents of the Canton Nursing Home (cards greatly appreciated (United Helpers NH, 205 State Street, Canton, NY 13617). Prayers for **Jerry & Bev Findley** facing health challenges and **Lynn Miller** recovering from a procedure.

Continued long distance prayers for Jeannie Lewis (a former church member who lives in NH) who is being treated for macular degeneration.

Special thanks to **Ray Erickson** for always being present with his camera and smile to take many of the photos for the newsletter. Greatly appreciated!

Congratulations to **Lincoln Gollinger** who won the Fire Prevention Contest for his grade and got to ride the firetruck to school (and meet the fire chief)!

We pray for parents raising children, and children caring for parents.

Steve Peckham stopped by the church for a visit while recently in Canton for his 50th HS reunion. It was great to see him!



Farm Family Offering

Our Farm Family Offering is an opportunity for you to share your **mission dollars** with **local farmers**. Because of this mission program, which we began in 2002, many farm families have been able to buy presents for their children when they wondered where the money would come from to do so.

Our local producers have to deal with **whatever weather** that Mother Nature sends along with a difficult economy. Cost of production may be higher than the payment they receive for their product. Despite these challenges, our local farmers will do their best to provide their **foods** and **products** to us.

During the month of December, **monetary gifts** will be delivered personally to **local farm families** producing meat, milk, fruit, vegetables, syrup, honey, or nursery plants. Together our dollars will provide a Merrier Christmas for farm children and their parents. Special thanks to **Jeannie Lewis** who makes a generous donation each year to get the ball rolling.

Bring your donation to church on **Sunday, November 30th** where there will be envelopes addressed to **"Farm Family Offering"** in which you can insert your money. For church families who receive a snail-mailed newsletter, an envelope will be attached. You can also mail your donation (check only-no cash) to: Canton Presbyterian Church, 17 Park Street. Be sure to note for **Farm Families** on check. **Thank you for making a difference!**

Marilyn Rodee
Farm Family Coordinator

Women's Circle

Women's Circle will meet on **Wednesday, November 12th** at **7 p.m.** in Lorna's Lounge with the topic of **"Gratitude."** All women of the church are welcome!

November Lectionary Readings

November 2

Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4
Psalm 119:137-144
2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12
Luke 19:1-10

November 9

Haggai 1:15b-2:9
Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21 or Psalm 98
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17
Luke 20:27-38

November 16

Isaiah 65:17-25a
Isaiah 12
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13
Luke 21:5-19



November 23/Christ the King

Jeremiah 23:1-6
Luke 1:68-79
Colossians 1:11-20
Luke 23:33-43

November 30/1st Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 2:1-5
Psalm 122
Romans 13:11-14
Matthew 24:36-44

Evening Book Group

The Evening Book Group will meet on **Tuesday, November 18th** at 7 p.m. in Lorna's Lounge to discuss **Record of a Spaceborn Few** by Becky Chambers with the discussion led by **Christy Dekay**.

Greening Of The Church

The Greening of the Church will take place after worship on **Sunday, November 23rd**. *Many* hands are needed (and an expanded coffee hour is being offered that day to keep us fueled) as together we do the merry work of preparing the church for the Christmas season. **Hope to see you!**



Church Attendance

	In-Person	Stream	CS
October 5	67	38	10
October 12	78	40	No CS
October 19	65	33	8
October 26	72	40	7

Average In-Person Attendance: 71
 Average Live-Stream Attendance: 38
 Average CS Attendance: 8

Treasurer's Report

	Operating	Mission
September 29	\$4,386.24	\$ 0.00
October 5	\$2,103.00	\$ 210.00
October 19	\$7,779.94	\$ 50.00
Total:	\$14,269.18	\$ 260.00

Giving Tree

It's time again to take a **Giving Tree envelope** and help the Church & Community Program make the holidays brighter for a child in need in our community! Just like last year, we're asking for **donations** to purchase vouchers for **clothing, toys/gifts**, and **food** for families who need our help more than ever as many are facing the potential loss of federal assistance programs as they move into the holiday season. With the Giving Tree program, parents are able to shop for their own children which, since 2020, has proven to be a terrific method.



In addition to the three vouchers, each child will also receive a new pair of **PJs** (thanks to Janice Poole!). To make this happen, Giving Tree needs your donation by cash, check or online at ccpcanton.org. Giving Tree envelopes are in our church foyer. Thanks in advance for your generosity. If you have any questions, contact our CCP representatives, **Sean Boutin, Michelle Theisen** and **J.J. Jockel**.

Officers & Committees

Elders On Session

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

Joe Montgomery Patrick LaPierre Rob Ewy
 Sarah Melville Nick Dekay Jim Franklin
 JJ Jockel Heidi Ames John Christopher
 Rich Grayson Michelle Theisen Beth Hayes
 Patricia Mace - Elder & Clerk Of Session

Board of Deacons

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

Christy Dekay Ray Erickson Christa Lyon
 Susan Akins Jane Cable Mark Brackett
 Georgia Vose Bob Duda Stacie Olney-LaPierre
 Ray Erickson, Treasurer

Committees

Chairs

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

Facilities Nick Dekay & Joe Montgomery
 Responsible for the maintenance and use of all church property.

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

Nominating B Hayes, JJ Jockel, R Grayson, B Brown
 Responsible for filling Session, Deacons & Offices.

Christian Education Jim Franklin
 Responsible for growth, nurturing & learning.

Worship Rob Ewy & Sarah Melville
 With pastor, responsible for worship.

Communion Pat Mace & Vicki McLain

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

Mission Michelle Theisen & Sarah Melville
 Helping our church, community and world.

Treasurer Mary McGreevy

Financial Secretary Barry Walch

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

Personnel Heidi Ames & Patrick LaPierre

Manse Renovation Committee

Jim Franklin, Pat Mace, Sarah Melville, Rob Ewy, Joe Montgomery, Christy and Nicholas Dekay

Thanks to our Elders & Deacons for their good work!

The Pastor's Report

To the People of the Park,

On Tuesday October 28th I was at the Lisbon United Presbyterian Church to attend a meeting of the Presbytery of Northern New York. That day the body approved the requests of several churches in the central and eastern areas of the presbytery to transfer to the Albany Presbytery. Owing to rules which require geographical contiguousness, this will necessarily require several other churches to also transfer to either Albany, or the Northern New England Presbytery. While these transfers must yet be approved by the Synod of the Northeast, it is merely a matter of time (months) before the following churches will no longer belong to the Presbytery of Northern New York: Adirondack (Lake Clear), Chazy, Chateaugay, Mount Moriah (Fort Henry), Peru, Plattsburgh, Rouses Point, Saranac Lake and Tupper Lake. The Watertown Korean Church was also transferred to the non-geographical Eastern Korean Presbyterian Church. The remaining churches, including Canton, will either be *absorbed by* or *merge with* the Utica Presbytery (yet to be determined), seek another denominational affiliation, or become independent of a denomination. Let that sink in a moment.

Sitting there in the sanctuary of the Lisbon church I thought to myself, "What a sad day for the body of Christ, the Church." What made it all the sadder, at least for me and in my opinion, is that this was *completely* unnecessary and in *no way* inevitable (apparently, though, mine is the minority view).

While many institutions suffer from poor leaders and leadership, administrative incompetence, and a dearth of vision, they can continue to exist or even thrive (often in spite of themselves). When it comes to a church/the Church, however, the lack of hope is a death knell.



**Persistence
Not
Permanence**

One of the great ironies of the church is that in spite of its 2000 year history, often towering, grand, or impressive edifices, and the profound impact it has had on both individuals and society, the church is actually but a fleeting and fragile idea held close in the hearts of those who choose to have hope in it regardless of the pessimism rampant in the wider world beyond it, and the well-founded fears which creep up within it.

Were one to drive through Canton, spy our church across the Park, and walk over to learn we were founded in 1807, one would correctly conclude that our congregation has been a part of the fabric of this community since its inception and, also, a vital part of the lives of countless people and families who live here. However, it would be incorrect to assume this will always be the case. That is, unless those of us in *this* generation choose to make it so, and dare to manifest the hope such a decision will require.

Churches, and Presbyteries, are built on a persistence of hope, not an assumption of permanence. Let our stewardship be a manifestation of our hope for the Church we seek and world we envision.

- Rev. Mike

"And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing." - James 1:4

NOVEMBER Birthdays

- 1 Dave MacMaster
- 2 Tracy Loeffler
- 4 Amanda Eschman,
Duncan Melville
- 5 Judy Longshore
- 6 Mary Grace Gordon
- 8 Rev. Michael Catanzaro,
Sam Murphy,
Laura O'Shaughnessy
- 11 Anne Patterson
- 12 Amelia Rodee, Sarah Rodee
- 18 Wanda Renick
- 21 Janice Poole
- 24 Martha Pierce, Betsy Robinson
- 25 David Patterson
- 26 Hunter Montgomery
- 28 Bob Duda
- 29 Stuart Jones
- 30 Olivia Sullivan

NOVEMBER Anniversaries

- 14 Christy & Nick Dekay

Jewish Food Festival

On Sunday, **November 16th** the Beth El Jewish Food Festival will take place from **11 a.m. to 4 p.m.** at 81 Market Street in Potsdam. Breads and pastries from a kosher Montreal Bakery, Beth El prepared blintzes, latkes, falafel, soups, hummus, and lots more to eat in or take out. This is an important (and **very delicious**) fundraiser for their congregation. It is also a tangible (and tasty) opportunity to show support (and to slake one's cravings for carbohydrates).



Time to Fall Back!

Turn your clock back an hour when you go to bed on **Saturday, November 1st.**

Virtual Worship & Fellowship

For live-streaming, fellowship, bulletins, sermons, newsletters, and other resources, **begin by bookmarking the church website:** 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 and click on "YouTube Channel." You can choose to subscribe to our channel or simply go to this link each week.

Zoom Fellowship calls happen each Sunday (except July & August) 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 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 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 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").

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

Bazaar Report

A special thank you to **EVERYONE** who made our recent Bazaar a huge success. All those that donated time, items, ingredients for the luncheon, made baked goods and candy, attended the bazaar or just stopped in to give us moral support.

The push began in earnest on Tuesday afternoon when the **CREW (Edith Frazer, Mary Christopher, Susan Akins, Marilyn Rodee and Linda Potter)** carried items up from the basement. Wednesday evening found us setting and skirting tables followed by unpacking and organizing on Thursday and Friday. Despite Rev Mike referring to her as a "slacker," Linda did an amazing job of turning boxes of donated (and often tangled) jewelry into an amazing booth of baubles fit for royalty. **Gwen and Stacie LaPierre** didn't miss a beat when it came to helping customers with selections on Bazaar day. **Janet Stitt and Marilyn Rodee** skillfully arranged and displayed plants and dried flowers that were hoping to go to forever homes. **Pat Mace** and her crew of **Barb King, Ellen Grayson, Rita Ostrander, Faye Bartley and Barb Brown** worked tirelessly to use the space allotted to skillfully display their wares. **BAKERS BEWARE.....**there was an amazing assortment of baked goods and candy that no one could walk past, and on bazaar day was managed by **Kelcy Larson-Reichhart, Marion, Nico and Rosie Larson.**

Behind the scenes **Arvilla and Vern Aldous** are the "**Official Turkey Roasters/De-boners**" and a great job they did...no bones were left unturned...or found in the meat! Friday afternoon found the kitchen in full swing... **Sarah Murphy, Olga Virgil and Jean McGuire** were **Lean, Mean, Chopping Machines**

Bazaar Report - cont.

as they chopped up the ingredients for the soups and sandwiches and peeled and chopped eggs and olives (YUK!) for sandwich filling. **Sophia Smalling** was named the **Official Pumpkin Pie Filling Maker** which was poured into crusts skillfully fashioned by Jean. Saturday morning found Jean, **Christy & Sebastian Dekay** and Olga joyfully making/cutting trays and trays of sandwiches. Orders placed for lunch with **Whitney LaShomb** were effortlessly filled by Christy and **Martha Cole** and **carried with a smile** to hungry customers by Sebastian and Sophia. **Susan Akins** did a great job of overseeing the flow of the area.

Sunday morning following the Bazaar Fellowship Hall was bustling with shoppers picking up last minute bargain items and food. When the shopping was done, everyone pitched in to tear down, re-stack, box up, and carry away. By 1 p.m. all evidence of the recent Bazaar was erased.....only the memories lived on. Thanks to **Micah, Sam and Sully Murphy, Patience, Cameron and Aubrey Boswell** who all jumped lend a hand.

I believe our 2025 Annual Fall Bazaar was a **HUGE SUCCESS** and a good time was had by all; church and community members alike. I will apologize now for forgetting to name someoneand if it was you, please point it out to me, **I would do the same if it was me.** Revenue from the day was a *whopping* **\$2,467.35.** Give yourselves a hand! This couldn't have happened without **EVERY ONE OF YOU.**



- Beth Hayes

Prayer Warriors

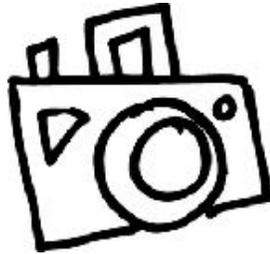
Would you like to help your neighbor, stretch spiritually and be a part of the mystical movement of the church? We are always looking for new prayer warriors to join **the church Prayer Chain** to offer prayers for folks who are ill, troubled or in need.

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



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 to 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**. Updates easily done.



Presbyterian Worship

The next **Partridge Knoll service** is on **November 5th** and will continue through the winter (except January) on the **1st Wednesday** of the month at **11:00 a.m.**



Like Us On Facebook!

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

New Church Website Live



Christy and Rev. Mike have finished the **NEW Church Website** which is brighter and easier to use. We have switched to a different platform which will allow us to keep the site updated weekly (i.e. calendar)

The Church's email address:
Office@ChurchOnThePark.org

Reverend Mike's email address:
RevMike@ChurchOnThePark.org

Sermons & Services

Written Sermons in PDF format are now available for viewing or downloading on Monday at 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.

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

Hello, my name is...

Remember - **Name Tag Sunday** is **November 16th**.

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

Holiday Gift Card Drive

The **Office for the Aging** is sponsoring the **12th Annual Holiday Gift Card Drive** for older adults in the home delivered meal program. This year, gift cards will be delivered for the **Thanksgiving** holiday which is the perfect time to let older adults in our lives know how much they mean to us and how grateful we are for them.

From now until **November 10th**, OFA is collecting **gift cards and/or financial contributions** to purchase gift cards/gift baskets. Please consider making a contribution by the November 10th deadline. Mail it to: St. Lawrence County Office for the Aging, Attn: Thanksgiving Holiday Gift Drive, 80 State Highway 310, Suite 7, Canton NY 13617. For more info, 315-386-4730 or info@nyconnects.gov.

Gift Bibles

At our Sunday church service on **November 16th**, new **personalized Bibles** will be given to **31 kids in our church** (4th grade and up). These are a gift from our congregation, and will be distributed by **Elder Michelle Theisen** and **Rev. Mike**. If possible, parents are asked to bring kids to this special service to receive their Bibles. We encourage a family member or mentor to go through the Bible with the youth, showing them how to read and study the Word of God, and read the Bible together. May the youth know Jesus in a meaningful way, receiving God's wonderful gift of salvation and guidance of the Holy Spirit in their lives. As Psalm 119:105 tells us, "Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." May we all realize the great love and knowledge God has for us through His Word.

Election Day is **Tuesday, November 4th**. Be part of our democratic system and be sure to vote - whether by early voting, absentee or in-person.

Kids' Christmas Pageant

The Annual Christmas Pageant will take place during worship on Sunday, **December 7th**. With no Church School on November 30th (due to the Thanksgiving break) there will be a lot of planning in a short time to pull this off! Parents - mark your calendars! To learn more, contact our Christian Ed. director, **Andrea Montgomery** at amq20@yahoo.com.

Winter Farmers' Markets

On Friday, **November 21st** and Friday, **December 19th** from **10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**, our church's Fellowship Hall will serve as host site for **Winter Farmers' Markets** presented by GardenShare. All are encouraged to stop by and support local farmers, bakers, crafters, and their families as you shop for **holiday meals**, stock up your **pantry** for the winter and maybe even find a locally made **gift** for someone special.

Church Website

Go to www.churchonthepark.org or scan this QR code to see the latest sermon, church calendar, link to our YouTube Channel and much more!



Choir Resumes

Choir practice resumes on **Thursday, November 6th**. Practice is from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. All are invited to join our new choir director, **Mark Darou**, to raise your voice in song!

Saving Grace

We're thankful for the many things
Our heavenly Father sends:
For love and faith and strength and health,
For home and food and friends.

Pledge Sunday Is November 2nd

The chart below is part of the stewardship brochure which was in the mailing which you received. It shows the number of **pledging units** along with **average** pledge amount. Only you (and your family) know what amount is best for you. Together, we are the stewards of this church, giving our **time, talent and treasure** to make the Church On The Park a vital, welcoming part of our community. Consider what it means to you and bring or mail your pledge to the church on **Pledge Sunday, November 2nd**.

Pledges 2021-2025

Amount Pledged	# Of Pledging Units				
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
\$0 - \$399	2	2	4	2	2
\$400 - \$999	10	6	6	8	5
\$1,000-\$1,599	16	12	10	11	14
\$1,600-\$2,499	11	9	14	14	12
\$2,500-\$3,999	12	11	11	11	10
\$4,000 and up	<u>4</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>4</u>
Total:	54	48	53	55	47
Average Pledge	\$2,026	\$2,386	\$2,117	\$2,078	\$2,942
Weekly	\$38.97	\$45.88	\$40.72	\$39.87	\$56.57
Membership	105	95	110	103	
Total	\$109,429		\$112,230	\$138,280	
		\$105,971		\$114,328	

My Estimate of Giving

Yes! I would like to help support the work of our Church. During the coming year, I plan to give \$_____ per week, to be divided as follows:
 \$_____ for our church and \$_____ for General Mission.

_____ **Yes, I would like offering envelopes.**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Please bring to the church on November 3rd or mail to 17 Park Street, Canton NY 13617.

Your support of our church is greatly appreciated! Thank you!

A reminder of My Church Pledge:

During the coming year, I plan to give to our church \$_____ per week.

The Church on the Park

A Stewardship Reflection for Canton, NY

*In October, **Jim Franklin**, our new poet laureate, shared this poem as his “Seconds for Stewardship”. Many have requested that it be shared again. Here it is:*

Where the maples turn gold and the north wind blows,
There stands a small church with a steeple held high—
A beacon of hope ‘neath the wide country sky.

And here walks Rev. Mike, with a smile and a word,
With a heart full of grace and a voice that is heard.
Beside him, Linda—steadfast, wise, and true,
She leads with compassion in all that she’ll do.
Through Women’s Circle and each newsletter page,
She nurtures our spirit from stage to stage.

The pews may be wooden, the windows stained bright,
But the soul of this church is the children in flight—
Running through hallways, their giggles like song,
Dropping coins in the Noisy Can, proud to belong.

But this church, dear friends, is not built just of beams—
It’s built on our giving, our time, and our dreams.
It’s the Fall Bazaar’s bustle, the rummage sale’s cheer,
It’s the work of our hands and the love we hold dear.

Stewardship lives in the gifts that we share,
In the pledge and the prayer, in the burden we bear.
It’s not just a number, a line in a chart—
It’s the mission of Christ written deep in our heart.

Each year, we commit with a purpose so wide:
To missions that stretch far beyond where we bide.
Thirteen to fifteen percent of our plan
Goes to serve neighbors near and far as we can.

To the Church and Community Program we give—
Founded in ’74, still helping folks live.
To Malawi’s McCoy Center, where children are fed,
To MINC’s Emergency Fund when hope seems near dead.

But it’s local giving where our roots run deep,
Where the sowing we do brings a harvest we keep.
The Farm Family Offering, year after year,
Supports those who labor to bring food near.

The Deacon’s Offering, each month at the start,
Goes out with compassion, straight from the heart.
And come Advent, we give with a joy that is true—
To families in need, though they never ask you.

Continued on Pg. 12

A Stewardship Reflection for Canton, NY

You've helped Renewal House offer shelter and peace,
And gave Bear Pack kids fresh fruits without cease.
You've lifted up neighbors with burdens to bear,
And answered God's call with compassion and care.

You paid off medical debts, gave beef to the shelf,
Funded art for young minds, gave the aging some help.
You kept homes warm, lights on, and hope in the air,
Even composted dreams with the Village's care.

This is the Church on the Park, bold and bright,
A lighthouse of mercy, a wellspring of light.
Not just a building, but a body alive,
Where the Spirit of Christ continues to thrive.

So let us give boldly, with joy and with grace,
For the work of the Kingdom in this sacred place.
Let us pledge not from duty, but from love's deep well,
For the stories of hope that we're called now to tell.

Share Your News

Shout out and share the word about your kids and grandkids with your church family! Tell us about their involvement with **sports, music, theater** as well as **academic achievements** and anything else that you want to shout out!

Send your news to the church office (315) 386-2570 or office@ChurchOnThePark.org

Also, let Rev. Mike know when the kids have a game, recital, performance or award ceremony. Text him at (716) 857-0111 or email him at RevMike@churchonthepark.org.

Pantry Donations

Suggested **donations** for the food pantry at C&CP include: Potatoes, Apples, Oatmeal, Cereal, Granola Bars, Crackers, Canned Soup, Peanut Butter, Pasta, Spaghetti Sauce, Tuna, Mayonnaise, Baked Beans, Canned Beans, Canned Fruit, Canned Vegetables. Thank you!



You Can Help!

The **St. Lawrence County Office for the Aging** is in **critical** need of **volunteer meal drivers** to assist staff at any of the 5 Nutrition Centers located throughout the County. Volunteers are needed in **Brasher Falls, Canton, Gouverneur, Morristown and Potsdam**. Home delivered meal drivers deliver lunchtime meals to homebound seniors, Monday - Friday. Volunteers can choose their own schedule; volunteering a few hours a week or a month. Home delivered meals drivers receive mileage reimbursement of 70 cents per mile for their routes. Please consider helping out this **vital program** for seniors in our area.

To find out how you can help, please contact the office (315) 386-4730.

Deacon's Offering

The Deacon's Offering is the **first Sunday** of the month and 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!**

SIGN(S) OF THE TIMES

North Country Death Cafe

Here at
the Church
Tuesday, Oct. 21
7 - 8:30 p.m.

A free evening to talk about life & death

Cake will be served!

This is the conversation you've been dying to have!

Happy Halloween!

Trick or Treat, Bags of Sweets,
Kids Are Haunting All The Streets

Phantoms In The Park

This Saturday

Noon - Costume Contest
and Family Friendly Activities

1 p.m. - Trick-or-Treat Parade

Worship & Church School

Begin at 10:00 a.m.

Sunday's
Sermon
In-Person and On-line
Nursery Care Provided

"Praying Always"

www.ChurchOnThePark.org

OCT 19 7:39 AM 55° 315.386.2570

Congratulations

Maggie & Matthew

Wed This Day

Blessings & Bounty Upon Them

Fall Bazaar

Sunday October 18th

9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Handmade Gifts, Jewelry, Candy, Baked Goods,
Plants, Fall Harvest Items, Elegant Heirlooms

Lunch Served 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Howling cats and a big black spider,

Flying bats, some doughnuts and cider,

Smiling pumpkins can be seen;

The time is here for Halloween.

Trick or Treat!!!

Thank You Farmers' Market

Members & Vendors,

Garden Share,

and Manager Erin

For A Fabulous Season!

Fall Bazaar!!!



Bazaar Queen Beth at her cauldron...er...soup pot.



Sarah & Jean slicing and dicing.



Janet & Marilyn brought the Flower Power



Stacie & Gwen
bejeweled and bedazzled



Faye & Linda each raised their hand to volunteer to help!



Rosie and Nico helped Kelcy & Marion with "quality control" at the Candy & Baked Goods table.



(L) Rita, Sigrid & Pat tend to the legal tender; Rosalie regales with repasts.



Sebastian, Christy & Olga spreading for the spread.

Thanks to everyone who helped with the Annual Fall Bazaar. From bringing up items from the basement to setting up the booths, preparing the soup and sandwiches and being part of the joyous atmosphere during the sale, it was all hands on deck. Hats off to the Bazaar Queen Beth Hayes who keeps us all flowing smoothly. **We raised \$2,467.35 for our church. Hurrah!**



Great friends and great food.

Congratulations To Mark Erickson!

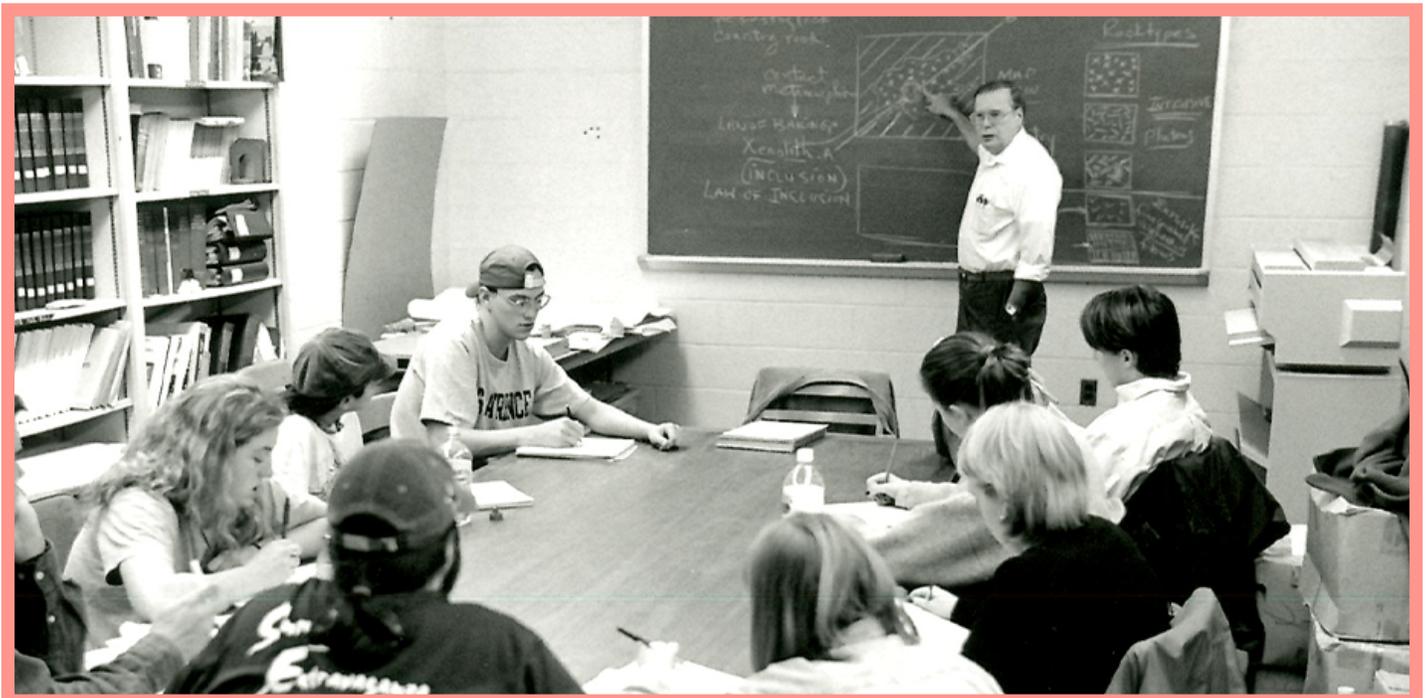


St. Lawrence University recently received a transformative \$3.5 million gift from an anonymous donor to establish the *Mark Erickson Endowed Professorship in Geology*, honoring **Professor Emeritus Mark Erickson's** more than four decades of teaching, mentorship, and scholarship.

For generations of St. Lawrence students, Mark has embodied the spirit of curiosity and discovery that defines the University's liberal arts approach. A gifted teacher and mentor, he inspired countless students to connect science with imagination—whether in the field, the lab, or in entirely new career paths.

“Mark Erickson's influence on his students has been profound and enduring,” says Alison Del Rossi, Vice President of the University and Dean of Academic Affairs. “Many alumni have told us he had a remarkable ability to help students see their potential, to challenge them to think deeply, and to encourage them to find their own path of discovery. This endowed professorship ensures that Dr. Erickson's legacy of mentorship and exploration will continue to thrive at St. Lawrence.”

Mark, who taught at St. Lawrence for 40 years, holds master's degrees in paleolimnology and sedimentology and a doctorate in invertebrate paleontology. His research includes mollusks, micropaleontology, and paleoecology, and his teaching and fieldwork—particularly in North Dakota and around Cincinnati—introduced generations of students to the history of life recorded in rocks and fossils. Many of his students collaborated with him on original research that led to professional publications and new discoveries.



Church and Community News

Congratulations to **Janice Poole** who was honored in October as the co-recipient of the Church and Community Program's Richard Morrow Award given in recognition of outstanding service. "Janice stepped in to keep PJs in the annual Giving Tree program when our provider folded. She works tirelessly every year (like Santa's best elf), shopping online and in stores to get the best deals on the best- looking PJs for local children, collecting coupons and checking the sales. She has frequently made special trips determined to find the very thing a child has requested." **Thank you Janice!!!**



L-R: Michelle, Connie, Christa, Sarah

This month Christa Lyon and Sarah Melville assisted Michelle Theisen on our monthly shopping trip to purchase donations for the C&CP Food Pantry. Funding by Noisy Can donations, this month the children of our church provided:

- 10 bags yellow potatoes/ 5lb bags
- 6 bags whole carrots- 2 lb bags
- 5 bags gala apples - 3 lb bags
- 25 cans Progresso Hearty Soups
- 5 value boxes of Oatmeal packets 20 ct

It was a special time together in showing God's great love from our church congregation, and children. Christa Lyon joined us to make a separate monetary donation to the Program's Food Pantry assistance.

Connie Jenkins, Director of the Church and Community Program, expressed much appreciation for the food and monetary donations, especially at this heightened time of need, in light of the Federal SNAP food assistance program being possibly halted by November 1. Many new people and families are signing up for eligibility to use the CCP food pantry to supplement their nutritional needs.

Green Team Stops By



On Friday October 25th our church welcomed the “**Green Team**” from Canton Central School into our church so they could eat their lunch in a warm and dry place. This was a last minute request owing to the weather report, and we were delighted to be able to support these kids as they work for a greener world. The group included **73 students** (wow!) and 17 adults. Advisor and teacher Megan Smith Bonner says, “Thanks so much! We took three shifts. This is 1/3 of them. The kids and adults were all very grateful to have an opportunity to warm up and eat in a dry location! We are full of gratitude!”



Go Green Team!!!



Life In A Small Church



Congratulations to Barb Brown who won the Loon Paddle Prize at the 40th anniversary of the Thousand Island Land Trust and its Loon Census. The paddle Barb won is a one-of-a-kind design crafted by local artist (and by our own) John Miller III.



We were delight to Baptize brothers Harold and Toby Thomas, sons of Kristine and Harold (and great-great grandsons of Joyce Bell).



And the Manse Renovation Committee said, "Let there be light!" and there was light in the manse attic! Another positive step in the right (and bright) direction!!!



Blessing of the Children
("Oh Lord, bless this child with curiosity, imagination, and patience.")



Thanks to our Stewardship Co-Chairs Jim Franklin (top) & Patrick LaPierre



Every kid in the church gets to ring the bell whenever they wish.



(So says the "Carlton Tanner Rule.")



Blessings Upon Our "Snowbirds" As They Fly South For The Winter



Rich & Ellen, Martha, Sigrid and Ella



The Church on the Park in Autumn

November 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 Costume Sunday New Member Class Seconds for Stewardship Stewardship Sermon 11:15AM Church Fellowship Zoom Meeting	27 7:00PM Session	28 1:30PM Church Office Open 7:00PM Evening Book Group	29	30 1:30PM Church Office Open	31 Halloween	1
2 Communion Deacon & Food Offering DST Ends Pledge Sunday 11:15AM Church Fellowship Zoom Meeting	3 Election Day 1:30PM Church Office Open	4 1:30PM Church Office Open	5 11:00AM PK Service	6 1:30PM Church Office Open 6:30PM Choir Returns!	7	8
9 Baptism--Stella Russ 11:15AM Church Fellowship Zoom Meeting 11:15AM Deacons Meeting	10 1:30PM Church Office Open	11 1:30PM Church Office Open	12 7:00PM Women's Circle	13 1:30PM Church Office Open 4:15PM C&CP Board Meeting 6:30PM Choir Practice	14 Newsletter Deadline	15
16 Gift Bibles To Kids Name Tag Sunday Noisy Can Offering 11:00AM Manse Committee Meeting 11:15AM Church Fellowship Zoom Meeting	17	18 1:30PM Church Office Open 7:00PM Evening Book Group	19	20 1:30PM Church Office Open 6:30PM Choir Practice	21 10:00AM Winter Farmers' Market	22
23 Christ The King Sunday Greening Of The Church Laurinda Stockwell To Preach Rev. Mike on Vacation 11:15AM Church Fellowship Zoom Meeting	24 7:00PM Session	25 1:30PM Church Office Open	26	27 Thanksgiving 1:30PM Church Office Closed	28 6:00PM Holiday of Lights	29
30 1st Sunday of Advent Farm Family Offering 11:15AM Church Fellowship Zoom Meeting	1 1:30PM Church Office Open	2 1:30PM Church Office Open	3 11:00AM PK Service	4 1:30PM Church Office Open 6:30PM Choir Practice	5	6