



The Oracle

Ogden Presbyterian Church
2400 S. Union Street
Spencerport, NY 14559
(585) 352-6802

December 2016

Oracle Volume XIX — Issue XI

Friends,

The Season of Advent (the word itself basically means “coming”) begins on November 27th. For me, the catch word is “prepare”. During Advent, I believe we need to prepare ourselves for Christmas Day, for the birth of Jesus Christ. It is a time when we consider what it means to us individually, to us as a congregation, and to the greater community, that God took on flesh and came and lived with us. I don’t think it’s faithful to just run scatterbrained through December, bouncing from one event to another, jamming in shopping trips, stressing about gift ideas, and then just sort of wind up on the morning of the 25th expecting it to be a sacred and beautiful event. I believe that if we are more intentional about preparing for that day — the birth, the person — then the season would be more fulfilling, and Christmas Day would be more meaningful.

You see, I believe it would be great if we treated the season of Advent much more like the season of Lent. It seems that in Lent we are significantly more intentional about prayer, fasting, studying, worshipping — all ways to prepare for Easter. We actually have a whole week, Holy Week, designed to prepare us for Easter Day. What if we put that kind of intentionality into Advent? What if we prayed more intentionally; fasted once or twice in the midst of the indulgence of the season? What if, everyday, we completed the following sentence: *Jesus is ____ ... or Christmas is ____ ...* and kept our sentences in a journal? If we are celebrating God come to earth in Jesus Christ, what if during Advent we memorized something he said? What if during Advent we did something he did — 1 thing every week? What if once per week during Advent we “sat down with Jesus” and talked to him — just like he was there?

So, I encourage you to take the season of Advent this year and set aside some quiet, thoughtful time, either daily or weekly, to consider what the reality of God Incarnate (in the flesh) has meant in your life. Consider the blessings that come from knowing the love of God in your life. I am willing to guarantee that if we were to do these things during December, that the month would not be as stressful and difficult; I guarantee we would have more peace; and I guarantee that Christmas morning would be sacred and Holy and beautiful, like you have never experienced. It’s worth a try. I’m doing it.

Pastor Tedd





Welcome to the Committee Corner! Session has elected to highlight the many mission and outreach activities going on at OPC, both to inform congregants and visitors of all that we do, as well as to guide Stewardship communications. Each month, we will focus on the inner workings of one of our many committees. This will help keep the congregation up-to-date on the happenings, both current and future, in OPC, with the hopes that it might help people find a way to utilize their own talents in our church. It also shows why your financial contributions are so important to our overall ministry, and why your support is vital to the overall success of OPC and ensuring its place within our community.

Food Shelf



SPENCERPORT ECUMENICAL FOOD SHELF

The Spencerport Ecumenical Food Shelf is a spinoff of the Spencerport Ecumenical Ministries (a group of 10 participating churches in our community). It has a Board of Directors staffed by volunteers from area churches. It collects food and household items through various churches, businesses, school groups, and other charitable organizations in the area. Items are stocked at Parma Baptist Church.

Cash donations are used to purchase store gift cards that will go out with each boxed delivery so that an individual/family may purchase fresh/perishable items.

Persons/families in need of food may call Steve Brown (277-4917), who will take information as to the number of people in the family, and age groups in order to figure out amount of food needed. Individuals or families are eligible to receive deliveries every 60 days (or 4 times a year). If/when more assistance is needed, information on how to apply for food stamps, school meal programs, etc. will be made available.

Persons/Families receiving help from the Food Shelf are also eligible for Thanksgiving baskets, and will be referred to Cartons for Christmas group for Christmas baskets.

The Food Shelf does its stocking of shelves every Thursday from 9 to 11am, if you are interested in volunteering. Deliveries are made on an as-needed basis using a pool of drivers headed by Elaine Hill. If you would like to be added to this list, you should call 293-1415.

Submitted by,

Jean Schult & Andy Resch (your OPC Representatives)

FOOD SHELF CURRENT NEEDS

Pasta, Pasta Sauce, Canned Fruit, Canned Juice, Spaghetti-Os, Jams/Jellies, and Peanut Butter.

Any cash donations toward purchase of gift cards can be given to Jean Schult or Andy Resch.



The Food Shelf helps over 120 families or individuals in our community through the generous donations they receive. This is a vital program for our community, and we thank you for your ongoing donations.

Any questions, please see either Jean Schult or Andy Resch.





ADVENT & CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

Each Advent, we gather for festive worship services on the four Sundays of the season. We light the Advent wreath at the beginning of the services, sing Advent hymns, and prepare our hearts for the coming of the Christ child. This year, the first Sunday of Advent is November 27th. We have several special events during our Advent worship services:

The Bell Choir Rings in Advent

On the second Sunday of Advent, December 4, our Bell Choir will present selections of Advent Music during worship. We will also celebrate Communion during this worship service.

Sunday School Christmas Pageant

On the third Sunday of Advent, December 11, our Sunday School children will present their annual Christmas Pageant, recounting the story of Jesus' birth. This is a favorite service of many... you don't want to miss it!

Festival of Advent and Music

On the fourth Sunday of Advent, December 18th, we celebrate the Festival of Advent with lessons and carols, and the choir presents their annual Christmas cantata. Afterward, the Fellowship Committee hosts the annual "Christmas Party" reception.

Christmas Eve Worship

On Christmas Eve, December 24th, at 7pm, we gather for the Candlelight Service of lessons and songs.

Christmas Day Worship

Since Christmas falls on a Sunday this year, we will have worship at our regular service time, 10am.



**PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN**

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN NEWS

We hope everyone has a great Christmas season!
Look for an event early in 2017.

We still have 20 cookbooks left. Cost is \$12 each.
They would make great Christmas gifts!
Please see Judy Rynne, or call her at 227-1885.



END OF YEAR

GIVING STATEMENTS


We are fast approaching the time of year when I will be compiling each of your giving statements for the year 2016. **I will be closing the books for 2016 on Thursday, December 29th**, and will make the final deposit on the morning of Friday, December 30th. If you have any last minute donations which you would like to make and get credit for them in 2016, you must do so on or before December 29th. Any donations that come in on or after December 30th will be credited for your 2017 giving.

This is also a good time to make sure your pledge giving and Per Capita are up to date. If you are not sure, please contact me and I will update you per my records.

Dennis Dupree, OPC Treasurer
(585) 352-1824
dennis.dupree71@gmail.com

2017 OFFERING AND PER CAPITA ENVELOPES

If you requested 2017 Offering Envelopes, they will be available for pick-up at church beginning Sunday, December 4th, and each remaining Sunday in December. Per Capita envelopes are included for those who did not pre-pay their 2017 Per Capita. For those who did not request envelopes, I will also have 2017 Per Capita envelopes for your convenience.



My Offering for:

<input type="checkbox"/> Tithe	<input type="checkbox"/> Missions
<input type="checkbox"/> Special Offering	<input type="checkbox"/> Floral Gift
<input type="checkbox"/> Christmas	<input type="checkbox"/> Easter
<input type="checkbox"/> Building Fund	<input type="checkbox"/> Faith Promise

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Amount: _____

It is more blessed to give than to receive. Acts 20:35

If anyone wishes a set of 2017 envelopes for their weekly offerings, please contact me. I do have some extras.

Dennis Dupree, OPC Treasurer
(585) 352-1824
dennis.dupree71@gmail.com

STITCHIN' FOR MISSION



The Stitchin' for Mission group continues to meet the 2nd Thursday of each month from 10-Noon at OPC. We have a group of very dedicated people who crochet//knit afghans and others who sew squares together to make quilts. We then give them to people who need the love they bring when they are ill or are having a difficult time in their life. In the past couple of months, we have given to OPC members and friends and to outside organizations. We recently sent 16 quilts to the Unity

Cancer Center at Park Ridge Hospital and to the Unity Dialysis Unit in Spencerport. I would like to send a big thank you for all the dedication and work that this group does. If the group is something you might be interested in, please come and join us to see what we do. If you have any questions, call Marilyn Malloy at 723-1731.

From the DEACONS...

Our Shut-ins

Judy Pagel at St. Mary's/Unity — Deacon/Michelle Rosipayla
Gene Brendel at The Hamlet @ Unity Villages — Deacon/Ruth Gaskill

Those in care facilities/shut-ins to be remembered with prayers, cards, and visits!

Addresses/phone numbers for any of the above, or best times to visit, may be obtained from the Deacons.



Mary En-
gelbreit

Be a lamp, a lifeboat, or a ladder

-Rumi

Our Deacons for 2016

Dawn Sheffet — Moderator
Harry Pittman — Charity, Men @ Work
Dennise Webster — Co-Moderator/Cards
Cindy Caloritis — Flowers
Diane Dupree — Membership
Sim Mulford — Communion Setup
Ruth Gaskill — Communion Servers
Michelle Rosipayla — Secretary
Ron Tucker — Treasurer

The Deacons would like to acknowledge those familiar to our church family who are currently serving in the United States Military. We encourage the congregation to remember and pray for them in honor of their service to our country.

SGT. MULFORD, GARY
CMR 414 BOX 129
APO AE 09173



Deacon News

- * Thank you for help with the Hanging of the Greens in November. We had a lot of hands working together, making for light work. We hope to see you when we take them down.
- * Please check the grape juice that is in the refrigerator. If it is marked "Deacons," please don't use it.
- * If you have noticed the occasional different bulletin covers, the Deacons have been providing them. If you are interested in providing a bulletin cover one week, please let the Deacons know.
- * The Deacons gave money to Andy Resch to help with the Food Shelf needs for Thanksgiving.
- * Anyone wishing to do so can provide flowers for special services. Contact the Deacons.
- * As always, thanks to everyone in the congregation who lets us know of someone who has a need so we can help!

Where love and caring are, there is God.

The work of the board of the Deacons is supported by your contributions to the Deacon offering, which is taken on Communion Sunday. Offering envelopes are available in the pews for this collection. Thank you!



SUNDAY SCHOOL PAGEANT

“O Dinky Town of Bethlehem”

Sunday, December 11th
10am

REHEARSALS:

****Dec. 4th**—during Sunday School and right after church in the Sanctuary

****Dec. 11th**—at 8:30am

We need a Mary, Joseph, Shepherds, Sheep and Angels! No speaking required!!

Please let Mrs. Metherell know ASAP if you are interested in participating!!



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY PROJECT

“Thank you for your generous contribution of several boxes of pill bottles for our program. Pill bottles prepared as described on our website are blended with other medical supplies and shipped to hospitals and clinics in developing countries where even a bar of soap is too precious to use except in the most extreme circumstances. The bottles provide a more hygienic form of dispensing and a safer receptacle for scarce and valuable medicines. Unprepared pill bottles are shredded and recycled for cash which goes back to support our programs and also helps save the environment by reducing the amount of waste deposited into landfills. *All pill bottles are valuable, appreciated, and helpful to our work.*

In 2015, Matthew 25 shipped 3,542 pallets (1,911,192 pounds) of medical supplies including bottles to locations such as Antigua, Commonwealth of Independent States, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Ghana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, and Nicaragua. Medical supplies include pill bottles as well as other first aid, surgical, treatment, and orthopedic items. In 2015, Matthew 25 recycled 66,347 pounds of chips and received \$1,685 in compensation for the recycling of the shredded pill bottles. These reimbursements provide additional funding for our programs.

We appreciate your support and diligence! We will gratefully accept any pill bottles you send to us in the future. Thank you again for all your help and your continuing support of this program.

Joodi Archer, Development and Media Director, Matthew 25 Ministries”

Women’s Bible Study has been collecting, cleaning, packaging and sending used pill bottles to Matthew 25 Ministries since early this year. So far, we have sent over 2,500 bottles and have more to send soon! Thank you all for your bottles, and continue to drop them off in the box on the Mission Table.

~Sharon Pittman, for Women’s Bible Study





BOY SCOUT CHRISTMAS TREE SALE

Please support Spencerport Troop 92's Annual Christmas Tree Sale located at the Spencerport Firemen's Field, adjacent to the Erie Canal.

We will be selling trees starting November 25th, continuing through December 23rd.

We are open Monday through Friday 5-9pm, Saturdays 9am-9pm, and Sundays 10am -6pm.

We have many different types of trees including Fraser Firs, Balsam Firs, and Concolor Firs.

~Life Scout Ben Ketchum of Troop 92

A VERY "WARM" THANK YOU FROM MISSIONS

The Mission Committee would like to thank everyone who donated coats, jackets, and blankets for the Albion Farm Workers. 11 bags of items were donated. Because of you, the workers will be warm and dry this winter.

God Bless,

The Mission Committee



The Christmas Joy Offering is one of four special offerings taken yearly to support Presbyterian Mission. This year's offering will be taken on **Sunday, December 18th.**

One half of the funds raised from this offering support Presbyterian racial ethnic schools and colleges. This support offers an opportunity for young adults to advance their education. The other half of the offering goes to support the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions. Thank you for your support and generosity.

The Mission Committee

NOVEMBER SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

The OPC Session met on Tuesday, November 15th. In that meeting, Session:

- 1) Welcomed and voted to approve five new members into our congregation!
- 2) Reviewed the recent Church History meeting, and decided to prayerfully consider outcomes.
- 3) Reviewed the preliminary 2017 budget, and made plans to finalize in December.
- 4) Discussed the open Presbytery Liaison position (any members interested in supporting this role are encouraged to contact Session).
- 5) Made plans for welcoming, training, and installing new OPC officers as we head into 2017.

This Thanksgiving season the OPC family has so much to be grateful for. Thanks be to God!

Blessings, OPC Session



ANOTHER BIG "THANK YOU!!!" FROM MISSIONS

The Mission Committee would like to thank everyone who donated shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child.

FIFTY THREE boxes were donated!!!

A very special THANK YOU to the Deacons for donating the boxes this year. It made all the difference.



We would also like to thank everyone who filled a stocking or purchased items to fill stockings for our military.

THIRTY ONE stockings were filled!!!

Happy Holidays to everyone!

Don't Miss the
DEADLINE!

January Oracle deadline

Monday, December 19th (FIRM)

ANNUAL REPORTS deadline

Tuesday, December 27th (FIRM)

Items can be dropped off to the church office or emailed to ogdenpresbyterian@gmail.com

Blessings and thank you to Pastor Tedd Pullano for sending me the sermon from the previous Sunday, and also for his kind salutation.

~Clara Reiber

thank
you!

Thank you to Sharon and Harry Pittman for cleaning up my mess after Bible Study on Tuesday, November 16th. We have such caring people in Ogden Presbyterian Church.

~Clara Reiber

THANK
YOU ...




OPC OFFICERS FOR 2017

The following people were voted in as 2017 Officers during a Congregational Meeting after worship on October 23rd, and were installed to their offices on November 20th:

Elders: Cindy Anderson (2019), Roger Howlett (2019), Carol Quinn (2019)
Sandy Frieday (2018), Pat Everett (2018)
Christine Matull (2017), Pat Rowe (2017), Toya Lalnunawia (Youth, 2017)

Deacons: Harry Pittman (2019), Marilyn Spilberg (2019), Ron Tucker (2019)

Trustees: Pam Ehring (2019), Jim Frieday (2019), Randy Spilberg (2019)
Wayne Bulan (2018), Al Webster (2018)

Nominating Committee: Barb Paulick (2019), Michelle Rosipayla (2019)
Betty Hogue (2018)

Auditor: Sim Mulford (2019)

Food Shelf Representative: Andy Resch (2018)

THANK YOU TO OUTGOING CHURCH OFFICERS

On behalf of the congregation of OPC, thank you to those volunteers who have faithfully served OPC, giving their time and talents through their various offices. These individuals did not have to give their time and energy to serve the Lord as they did, but they made themselves available to work for the church. We thank each one of you for your service.



DECEMBER

Worship and Fellowship Assistants

GREETERS:

December 4 Roger & Bonnie Howlett
 11 Rick & Eileen Smith
 18 Bob Hutchison
 24 Jim & Sandy Frieday
 25 Carol Quinn

USHERS:

December 4 Sandy & Jim Frieday
 11 Jean Schult & Carol Quinn
 18 Anne & Bob Wallace
 25 Chris Matull & Mary Saurini

LITURGIST:

December 4 Harry Pittman
 11 John Pullano
 18 Carol Newman
 25 Pat Everett

FELLOWSHIP HOSTS:

December 4 New Members Reception
 11 Don & Carol Clarke
 18 OPC Christmas Party Fellowship
 25 Sandy Frieday

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS:

December 4 Pageant Practice
 11 Christmas Pageant
 18 Choir Cantata—Children remain in worship
 25 No Sunday School

NURSERY CARE:

December 4 Kelly Bindert
 11 Sharon Pittman
 18 Bonnie Howlett
 25 Susan Azzolina

COMMUNION SERVERS:

December 4 Pat & Bill Everett, Betty Hogue,
 & Michelle Rosipayla

TRUSTEE OF THE MONTH:

Al Webster — December — 402-6244

One trustee is assigned per month to take care of any building issues that may arise. Please call the designated Trustee if you have something that needs to be addressed.

Thank You!

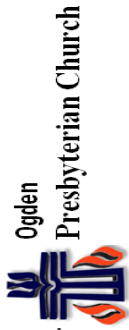


happy birthday

Name	Day
Ronald Glor	12 / 2
Daniel Proper	12 / 3
Scott Gaskill	12 / 9
Marilyn Spilberg	12 / 9
Harriet Ireland	12 / 11
Cynthia Anderson	12 / 14
Judy Rynne	12 / 14
Lauren French	12 / 18
Rebecka Resch	12 / 20
Jenna Goehle	12 / 21
Zachary Barklund	12 / 22
Caitlin Meabon	12 / 23
John Caloritis	12 / 24
Anne Wallace	12 / 25
Nicholas Rosipayla	12 / 26
Susan Wheeler	12 / 28
Karen Mandarano	12 / 28
Zachary Caloritis	12 / 29
Marlene Dyer	12 / 30
Cindy Caloritis	12 / 30
Mariepearl Ryhal	12 / 31



Merry Christmas



Phone: 585-357-6802
 Email: OgdenPres@frontiernet.net
 Web site: ogdenpresbyterian.com

December 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>OPC Mission Statement: Our purpose is to equip ourselves and others to be disciples of Christ as we seek God's will for our church and beyond.</i></p>						
<p>4 OPC Bell Choir SCC Concert, 3pm Youth Group, 6:30 2nd Sun. of Advent</p>	<p>5 Fellowship, 6pm Cub Scouts</p>	<p>6 Women's Bible, 9:30 Girl Scouts, 6:30pm</p>	<p>7 TOPS, 5:30pm Bell Choir, 6pm Choir, 7pm</p>	<p>8 Stitchin' for Mission, 10am</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>
<p>11 Sunday School Pageant 3rd Sun. of Advent</p>	<p>12 Men's Bible, Noon Cub Scouts</p>	<p>13 Women's Bible, 9:30 Worship & Music, 7pm</p>	<p>14 TOPS, 5:30pm Bell Choir, 6pm Choir, 7pm</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 D. Gruendike, FH, 10-3</p>
<p>18 Choir Cantata OPC Christmas Party Fellowship 4th Sun. of Advent</p>	<p>19 Deacons, 6:30pm Trustees, 7pm Cub Scouts *JANUARY ORACLE DEADLINE*</p>	<p>20 Women's Bible, 9:30 Session, 7pm</p>	<p>21 TOPS, 5:30pm Bell Choir, 6pm Choir, 7pm</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23 OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>24 CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP, 7pm</p>
<p>25 MERRY CHRISTMAS!</p>	<p>26 Cub Scouts</p>	<p>27 ***ANNUAL REPORTS DEADLINE***</p>	<p>28 TOPS, 5:30pm Bell Choir, 6pm Choir, 7pm</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>

Ogden Presbyterian Church
2400 S. Union Street
Spencerport, NY 14559

Tedd Pullano, Interim Pastor
Telephone: (585) 352-6802
Office email: ogdenpresbyterian@gmail.com
Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.
Website: <http://www.ogdenpresbyterian.org>

****DATED MATERIAL****

December 2016

December 2016

Newsletter Deadline: Articles for the *January 2017* issue of The Oracle are due in the Church Office no later than **Monday, December 19th** by 10:00 a.m. All contributions are subject to editing with regard to the subject matter and space requirements.

The Oracle is the newsletter of the Ogden Presbyterian Church of Spencerport, New York, a member congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA). The newsletter is sent to members and friends of the congregation to keep them informed of events, activities, and people in the life of the congregation. **Sunday worship is at 10:00a.m.** Church school is offered for all ages. Coffee Fellowship immediately follows worship. All guests are welcome!

OPC Mission Statement: *Our purpose is to equip ourselves and others to be Disciples of Christ as we seek God's will for our church and beyond.*