



The Oracle

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

December 2017

Oracle Volume XX - Issue XI

Friends,

The Season of Advent begins on December 3rd. Advent, like the Season of Lent, is a time of preparation and waiting. During Advent we prepare ourselves to celebrate Jesus' birth by exploring who Jesus is and why he came to be among us. 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 (just think about that for a moment, seriously). This year, I encourage you to take the season of Advent 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. Perhaps consider for a moment what life would be like without God's love and presence. And while you are being contemplative, I also urge you to consider what it is that you will *do* this Advent as a response to this wonderful gift. What is God calling you to do? To whom is God calling you to minister this December? Perhaps you can step out and visit a shut-in, or make a meal for someone who is struggling, or write/call someone whom you feel needs to be loved.

We also prepare for Christmas by learning to tell our own stories of faith. What has being a Christian meant to you? How has it helped, encouraged, and blessed you? Where has it moved you along in life when you were stuck? Perhaps the best gift you can give someone this season is to tell them your story and help them see the power of the gospel. What an awesome gift that would be!

Peace,

Pastor Tedd



December 3rd

First Sunday of Advent — Bell Choir

December 10th

Second Sunday of Advent — Sunday School Pageant

December 14th

Service of Hope ("Blue Christmas"), 7pm

December 17th

Third Sunday of Advent — Choir Cantata Service

December 24th

Regular 10am Worship Service

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 7pm



Friends,

Here is the overall schedule for the upcoming Advent Season. The overarching theme is *Comfort, Healing and Hope from God as God Comes to Be With Us*. The events for each Sunday, as well as the Scripture lessons, are included. We are looking for folks to light the Advent candles each week, as well as people to read Scripture lessons for the evening Candlelight worship on Christmas Eve. If you are interested in doing either, please see Pastor Tedd.

DATE	CANDLE	LIGHTER	EVENT	SCRIPTURE	SCRIPTURE
Advent 1 - Dec. 3	Hope			Isaiah 64:1-9	Mark 13:22-37
Advent 2 - Dec. 10	Peace		Pageant	Isaiah 40:1-11	
Service of Hope - Dec. 14					
Advent 3 - Dec. 17	Love		Cantata	Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11	John 1:6-9, 19-28
Advent 4 - Dec. 24	Joy			Isaiah 55:1-12	Luke 1:26-38
Christmas Eve	Christ	PT	<i>Scripture</i>	Luke 4:18	
			<i>Scripture</i>	Isaiah 11:1-10	
			READERS:		Isaiah 42: 1-4, 6-7
					Matthew 1: 18-25
					Luke 1:67-79
					Luke 2:1-7
					Luke 2:8-20

WHAT HAS THE YOUTH GROUP BEEN UP TO???



The Youth Group kicked off this school year with a bonfire at the Hoadley’s house. It was a lot of fun!!

At our October meeting, we discussed upcoming plans and events. We decided to have a church-wide Halloween Party. Madi spent TONS of time setting up the ‘Fright Factory’ upstairs, and everyone helped make the event a great success!

We had our regular Youth Group meeting in November with 11 youth attending! We had a church-wide scavenger hunt and talked about ‘Labels’ — how God sees what is in our hearts and nothing more.

On November 12th, we prepared a “Make Your Own Tacos” dinner at the Ronald McDonald House. They gave us a tour and told us all about the facility.

In December, we will be helping at Springdale Farm’s Breakfast with Santa to support Heritage Christian Services.

OPC is blessed to have such a wonderful group of fun and caring youth!!

SEASON OF CARING



The Discipleship Committee invites you to participate in the 2017 Season of Caring by offering your service to fulfill a need for a member of the OPC family or by listing a need that you have. If you can provide help, please complete a **green 'giving' slip**. If you could use some help, please complete a **yellow 'need help' slip**. You do not have to complete both. The green pledges will be posted on the Discipleship Nativity display in the Fellowship Hall.

Anyone with a particular need can pick up a pledge that will be of help to them and contact the giver listed on the back to arrange details. Similarly, givers are encouraged to read the yellow slips on the display and contact a person who is in need of help.

If you want to help, but are not sure of what to offer, some suggestions are listed below. However, they are NOT the only possibilities. As needs are all unique and varied, we seek givers who are willing to be flexible and meet people in the place where their need exists. We also encourage you to speak up regarding your own needs — remembering that we are not called to self-sufficiency but to Christian interdependence. Thank you for your willingness to serve and be served.

“Truly I tell you, whatever you did for the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.”
~Matthew 25:40

Possible Means of Service:

- * A ride to a shopping area and/or help with shopping
- * Watching a child/children or older loved one while the parent or caretaker attends to errands, shopping, or other needs.
- * Help getting out or putting up decorations
- * A visit to the ill, the shut-in, or someone with limited mobility
- * Help with house cleaning — or — a simple home repair
- * A gift of time (2 hours? A morning? Etc.) — discuss specific need/activity with recipient
- * Help with a specific Christmas task: gift wrapping, addressing cards, baking, etc. (You can be as specific or general as you want)
- * Accompanying someone to a doctor's appointment
- * Help with the “heavy lifting” (setting up a Christmas tree, moving furniture around, getting out large boxes, etc — you specify)
- * Other: Your original idea, listing whatever service or talent you can provide

DEADLINE FOR 2017 GIVING

In order for me to provide each of you with a complete statement of your giving during 2017, please be aware of the following:

All pledge monies or other giving **must be in my possession on or before December 28th** so that they can be applied to your 2017 figures. This is necessary so I can make desposits on Friday, December 29th, prior to my closing the financial books for 2017 that weekend.

Any monies received on or after Friday, December 29th will be applied to your 2018 statement and cannot be applied towards your 2017 giving.

NOTE: Since Sunday, December 31st falls after this closing date, this means that if you were planning on giving towards your 2017 pledge or any other designation on Sunday, December 31st, you should do so sometime **on or before Thursday, December 28th** for it to reflect on your 2017 statement.

Please contact me with any questions regarding this matter.

Dennis Dupree, Treasurer dennis.dupree71@gmail.com (585) 352.1824



A PIECE OF OPC HISTORY

40 years ago, the cross that hangs in our sanctuary was received as a gift from Eleanor Bound in memory of her husband, Hulett Bound.

The 44" x 66" cross was carved out of black walnut by Roy Hogue, husband of Betty Hogue, and father of Sim Hogue.

Roy was an industrial arts teacher in the Spencerport Central School District for many years.



FOOD SHELF NEEDS AND PLEA FOR HELP



The current list of needs includes: **Boxed Potatoes, Hamburger Helper, Packaged Cookies, Canned Soups (especially Tomato), and Canned Meats (chili, stew, hash, chicken, tuna)**

According to Steve Brown, chair of the Food Shelf, there are over 100 families that depend upon the Food Shelf for assistance. Families can only call the food shelf once every 60 days, and a maximum of 4x per year.

Deliveries include an average of \$200 worth of food (\$40 of which are gift cards for perishables) for a family of 4. A family of 2 gets about 60% of that. The average family asks for assistance about 2 or 3 times.

If you know of anyone that needs food assistance and resides in the Spencerport School District, have them call 277-4917 for assistance.

The Food Shelf is also looking for new driver volunteers to make the deliveries. Most of the existing driver volunteers are around 75-80 yrs old. There is no set schedule for deliveries, so even if you have a job, you can still help volunteer. If you are interested in helping with this ministry, please contact Steve Brown on his cell phone at 413-6901, or via the Food Shelf pager at 277-4917.

THANK YOU!

The Mission Committee would like to thank everyone who donated supplies for Stockings for Soldiers and/or filled shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. Because of you, children around the world, and our soldiers, will have a Merry Christmas and know they aren't forgotten. A total of 35 shoeboxes and 37 stockings were filled this year!

Thank you, and God Bless.

~The Mission Committee





From the Deacons

Scatter seeds
of kindness
wherever you go

Our Shut-ins

*Judy Pagel
at St. Mary's*

*Gene Brendel
at The Cottages at Unity*

*The Allens
at The Rochester
Friendly Home*

*Harriett Ireland
at Seabury Woods*

Deacon News

- ❖ Reminder the communion envelopes in the pews for the Communion Sunday go to the Deacons. We appreciate your support.
- ❖ Reminder to leave any donated cards for touch cards in the basket in the “crying room”
- ❖ If you have a chance to visit someone, go ahead! We are all Deacons at OPC.
- ❖ Remember Our Daily Bread is available in the Narthex. Please take one.
- ❖ The Deacons made a donation to the Food Shelf to help families out for Thanksgiving.
- ❖ Thank you to everyone who helped with the Hanging of the Greens.

The Deacons with everyone a Blessed and very Merry Christmas!

Our Deacons for 2017

Dawn Sheffet — Moderator
 Dennise Webster — Co-Moderator/Cards
 Harry Pittman — Charity
 Cindy Caloritis — Flowers
 Diane Dupree — Membership
 Sim Mulford—Communion Setup
 Ruth Gaskill — Communion Servers
 Marilyn Spilberg — Secretary
 Ron Tucker — Treasurer



*Please remember
our military:*

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

THANK YOU



THANK YOU!

Friends at OPC,

I am well on my way to recovery — thanks to the thoughts and prayers from my church family —

My outstanding Deacon, Cindy Caloritis, was most caring with her many visits and calls. The time we shared will always be treasured.

As a congregation we must never underestimate our power. I sincerely feel you lifting me up for healing.

God bless us, one and all,

Mary Lynn Watson

THANK YOU!!

To Pastor Tedd and all of my friends at OPC,

Thank you for all of your prayers and support. They mean the world to me.

I think about you often, and am thankful for each of you.

Much love, and many thanks,

Rev. Encie Stevens



SECRET SANTA



The Mission Committee would like to extend a big “THANK YOU!” to our Secret Santa for the VERY generous donation to the Human Needs Fund.

Because of you, someone will receive some much needed help this holiday season!

Thank you, and God Bless!

~The Mission Committee

A HUGE THANK YOU!

The Mission Committee would like to thank everyone for your **generous** donations to the Special Offering to assist the recent hurricane victims in Texas, Florida, and Puerto Rico.

\$1,150.00 was raised!!!

Thank you, and God Bless!



CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

The Christmas Joy Offering is one of four special offerings taken yearly to support Presbyterian Mission. One half of the funds raised goes to support Presbyterian racially ethnic schools and colleges. The support offers an opportunity for young adults to advance their education. The other half of the funds goes to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions.

The offering will be taken on Sunday, December 24th in morning worship.



HANGING OF THE GREENS

The Deacons again would like to thank everyone who helped with the Hanging of the Greens. OPC has been decorated for the Christmas season, and the church is beautiful.

The paraments have been changed to Purple for the duration of the Advent Season.

Again, everyone is invited to attend our Advent services:

- Dec. 3 — 1st Sunday of Advent — Bell Choir**
- Dec. 10 — 2nd Sunday of Advent — Sunday School Pageant**
- Dec. 14 — Service of Hope (“Blue Christmas”), 7pm**
- Dec. 17 — 3rd Sunday of Advent — Choir Cantata**
- Dec. 24 — 4th Sunday of Advent — Regular 10am worship
— Candlelight Service, 7pm**





Worship and Fellowship Assistants

GREETERS:

- December 3 Anne & Bob Wallace
- 10 Rick & Eileen Smith
- 17 Thomas & Deborah Plucknette
- 24 Dawn Sheffet (10am)
Jim & Sandy Friday (7pm)
- 31 Roger & Bonnie Howlett

USHERS:

- December 3 Sandy & Jim Friday
- 10 Dennise & Al Webster
- 17 Marilyn & Dick Malloy
- 24 Diane & Dennis Dupree
- 31 Sandy & Jim Friday

LITURGIST:

- December 3 Carol Newman
- 10 John Pullano
- 17 Roger Howlett
- 24 Norma Jones
- 31 Sandy Friday

FELLOWSHIP HOSTS:

- December 3 Suzie & Lyn Ewell & Julia Ryhal
- 10 Don & Carol Clarke—Pageant Sunday
- 17 OPC Christmas Party—Fellowship Team
- 24 Bonnie & Roger Howlett
- 31 Sandy Friday

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS:

- December 3 Pageant Practice
- 10 SUNDAY SCHOOL PAGEANT
- 17 CHOIR CANTATA
- 24 NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
- 31 NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

COMMUNION SERVERS:

- December 3: Sharon & Harry Pittman,
Sandy & Jim Friday

BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

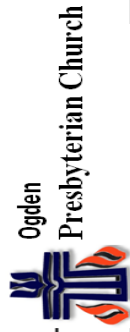
Name	Day
Ronald Glor	12 / 2
Daniel Proper	12 / 3
Scott Gaskill	12 / 9
Marilyn Spilberg	12 / 9
Harriet Ireland	12 / 11
Cynthia Anderson	12 / 14
Judy Rynne	12 / 14
Lauren French	12 / 18
Rebecka Resch	12 / 20
Jenna Goehle	12 / 21
Zachary Barklund	12 / 22
Caitlin Meabon	12 / 23
John Caloritis	12 / 24
Anne 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



**TRUSTEE OF THE MONTH:
Jim Friday — December
260-0175**

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!

Phone: 585-352-6802
 Email: OgdénPres@frontiernet.net
 Web site: ogdenpresbyterian.com



December 2017

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>						
3 1st Sunday of Advent Bell Choir SCC Concert, 3pm	4	5 Women's Bible, 9:30am Fellowship, 6pm	6 Choir, 4pm TOPS, 5:30pm Bells, 6pm	7	8	9
10 2nd Sunday of Advent Sunday School Pageant	11 Men's Bible, Noon, @ Union St Eatery	12 Women's Bible, 9:30am W&M, 7pm	13 Home Bureau, 9:30-2:30 Choir, 4pm TOPS, 5:30pm Bells, 6pm	14 Stitchin' for Mission, 10am SEM @ St. John's, 10am Service of Hope, 7	15	16 Gruendike Party, FH, 8-4
17 3rd Sunday of Advent Choir Cantata OPC Christmas Party	18 Lunch Bunch, Noon @ Slayton Pl Deacons, 6:30pm Trustees, 7pm ORACLE DEADLINE	19 Women's Bible, 9:30am Session, 7pm	20 Choir, 4pm Bells, 6pm	21	22	23
24 4th Sunday of Advent Christmas Eve Service, 7pm	25 Merry Christmas!	26	27 Home Bureau, 9:30-2:30 Choir, 4pm TOPS, 5:30pm Bells, 6pm	28	29	30
31						

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

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

December 2017

****DATED MATERIAL**
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

December 2017

Newsletter Deadline: Articles for the *January 2018* issue of The Oracle are due in the Church Office no later than **Monday, December 18th** 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!

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