

News from the Pews

Conklin Presbyterian Church 8 Broad Avenue—North Chapel Newsletter

January 2016

A Daily Affirmation for January 1 and Beyond

When Jesus was baptized in the Jordan River, as he was coming up out of the water he heard a voice from heaven affirming him as God's beloved Son (Matthew 3.27). Our own baptism is the church's affirmation of God's claim on each of us as a beloved son or daughter, along with Jesus our brother and savior.

Sometimes it's easy to forget our belovedness, especially on days when nothing is going well or it feels like we're messing up again and again.

I've found the affirmation statement below very helpful. It's from an article by Rev. Dr. David Lose, who is now the president of the Lutheran Seminary in Philadelphia:

"I am God's beloved child, deserving of love and respect, and God will use me to change the world."

Write or type this affirmation on an index card or small piece of paper and tape it to your mirror. Every day, preferably when you get up in the morning, look in the mirror and repeat these words. If you forget to do it one morning, just look in the mirror and repeat the statement at any time. If you skip a day, just go back to doing it the very next day. Do it for at least 31 days.

Repeating the affirmation day after day, no matter what the day brings, helps us remember that we really are God's beloved children. This is a case where "practice makes permanent." As we look ourselves in the eye and repeat the affirmation, eventually our minds and hearts will get on board with remembering God's love and care for us.

Don't worry about how God will use you to change the world. Just trust that everything you do for the good, God will use. Our words and actions may have reverberations far beyond what we can imagine. Not knowing how God will use what we say and do is all right for at least two reasons. First, it means God has the maximum freedom to use our words and actions as God sees fit. Second, it keeps us from getting a swelled head, or grandiose ideas about ourselves.

If you've found the Daily Gratitude Prayer practice (December newsletter) helpful, by all means continue with it. If you add the Daily Affirmation in the morning, you can begin and end each day in prayer.

Blessed New Year,

Rev. Barbara Schwartz

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January Birthdays

- January 1----- John Colley
- January 2----- Eleanor Downing
- January 3----- Nancy Little
- January 4----- David Blake
- January 6----- Millie Simmons
- January 7----- Maura Cleary
Lorna Kinsman
- January 9----- Steve Chastain
- January 16----- Mike Patchen
Gina Stephens
- January 19----- Bev Osterhout
- January 20----- Sheri Brewer
- January 24----- Jerrod Trudell
- January 26----- Blanche Patrician
- January 28----- Ralph Fuller
Diane Hunter
- January 30----- TJ Adams

January Anniversaries

- January 24----- George & Kathy Schuster

Healing Prayer

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Julie Allen | Bill Quintin |
| Bill Calhoun | Millie Simmons |
| Clara Cole | Hank & B Snopek |
| Michael Colgan | Lynn Tompkins |
| Noni Davern | Greg Stayer |
| Sue DeNoyelles | Ann Vitosky |
| Jo Dufton | Our Church |
| Joanne Evans | |

The next healing prayer meeting will on Tuesday, January 17th @ 11 AM in the CPC Chapel.

Annual/Congregation Meeting

Karla Toman

Our combined annual meeting / congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, February 6th after the 11 AM worship services. All reports are due to the church office no later than January 15th. A draft will be available on January 29th.

Thanksgiving Meal Boxes

Reenie Dedrick

The CPC congregation, when asked, gave an immediate and overwhelming response to the CPC Deacon's Thanksgiving Day meal box mission which supplied a complete Thanksgiving meal to 20 local families in need of a holiday meal.

This year, CPC members completed the project very quickly with families requesting to shop and fill a meal boxes or giving a generous donation. The purchase of the 20 turkeys was possible with the congregation's donations and the Conklin Kiwanis monetary donation. The value of these meal boxes is estimated at over \$800.

So, thank you, thank you, and thank you for being such a caring and giving church community by responding to this local mission to ensure that these area families had a complete meal to prepare on Thanksgiving Day.

Sunday School

Bill Miller & Karla Toman

There will be no Sunday school on Sunday, December 25th or Sunday, January 1st.

If you have a question if we are having Sunday school or not, please call or text Karla Toman at 607.768-5515.

Pie Night

Wayne Barlow

Pie night is scheduled for Friday, January 6th serving from 6—7:30 PM. For \$5, you get for 2 small slices of pie (or 1 large slice), drink, and great Christian fellowship.



BAN Chapel Congregational Calendar

Sunday Worship Service – 9:00

Worship----- Marian Vergason, Jeff & Margaret Knapp
Building/Grounds-----Beth Lewis

Deacons----- Debbie Konnick, Bev Emmett,
Ellen Mack, Betty Ann Puzo, and Nancy Rychlewski

Christian Education-----Debbie Konnick

Children's Sunday School-----Bev Emmett &
Debbie Konnick

Adult Sunday School -----Carol & Rick Simrell

Fellowship CPC ----- Mary Sternquist

Bible Study Thursdays at 11:00-----Betty Decker &
Gloria Larson

Choir Tuesdays at 6 PM--Gloria Larson, Music Director

Bulletin/Newsletter -----Marian Vergason

WOC – Women of the Church----- Mary Sternquist

AA Meets Saturdays at 7:00 PM

**Chapel Meeting is on Saturday, January 7th at 9:30.
All are welcome to attend.**

Counters for January----- Debbie Konnick &
Mary Sternquist

Counter Subs: ---- Betty Decker & Marian Vergason

BAN Deacons

Bev Emmett

Please continue to keep Pat Konsur and Carol & Rick Simrell in your prayers. It is wonderful to see Rick Simrell in church as he is able. Please remember our shut-ins with your phone calls, cards and always a prayer. The Christmas season is an especially lonely time for some people who cannot leave their residence. Sending a Christmas card would lift their spirits and bring a little joy into their lives. Our shut-ins include Naomi Clark, Betty Duscik and Bill Emmett.

*Please note that if you are sick or injured, you or a family member should notify Debbie Konnick. Many times a card would have been sent or phone call would have been made if we had known.

BAN Worship

Marian Vergason

Christmas Sunday service will fill the sanctuary with familiar Christmas carols we have sung through the years but have not had the opportunity to sing every year. We anticipate people from First Presbyterian Church in Binghamton attending Broad Ave-North due to First Pres being closed on Christmas day. May the spirit of this Christmas season be with you all year through.

A new member of BAN, Judy Evans, received into membership through letter of transfer from Center Lisle Congregational Church, publicly declared her faith on December 4, 2016. Congratulations and welcome to the family Judy.

BAN Christian Education

Debbie Konnick

BAN's Christmas Tea was well attended with tables decorated by members, each one with different colors and decorations all bringing the "merry" into the Christmas season. Thank you to everyone who brought delicious dishes and goodies to share and to Debbie Konnick who organizes this gathering during the Christmas holiday season. Much work and very much appreciated.

Thank you to everyone who participated in decorating the Christmas tree, sanctuary and dining room for Christmas. Cortese pizza was served after a fun job well done.

E is planning a crockpot soup dinner in January following the worship service – date to be determined.

BAN New Address

Bev Emmett

Please make note Carol & Rick Simrell have moved to 16 Carlton St., Binghamton, NY 13903.

BAN Thank You

Bev Emmett

Thank you for your generosity this past year with our many fund raisers and our mission endeavors, etc. A big thank you for your time where and when it was needed. And support with our collections – cans, bottles, can tabs, ink cartridges, eye glasses/lenses, cell phones, CHOW, Pennies for Projects....we look forward to your continued support. P.S. Don't forget to come to church on Sundays!

BAN Christmas Cantata at CPC

Gloria Larson

December 18th, The First Light, Rejoice! A Child of Hope is Born, Christmas Cantata, joined the choirs of CPC and BAN for an inspiring hour of beautiful music to honor the coming of the Christ Child. Thank you to all who participated making this memorable event very special.

BAN Adult Sunday School

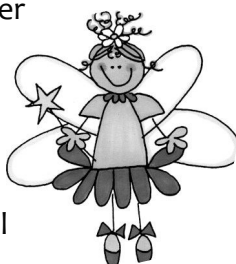
Carol & Rick Simrell

Adult Sunday School will continue in 2017 with Carol & Rick Simrell leading the group. If you would like to see a specific book of the Bible studied, let Carol or Rick know. Ideas are always welcome. Bring your coffee &

BAN A Tip from the Garden Fairy

Debbie Konnick

The Master Gardener Volunteer Program is a nationwide Cooperative Extension project that provides interested gardeners with horticultural training. In return these volunteers provide gardening education and information to the community. If you would like to obtain a Master Gardener application packet (Master Gardener Program and Master Gardener Volunteer Interest Survey) please call Carol Fullerman, Administrative Assistant at 607-584-9966 or email clf62@cornell.edu.



BAN Cleaning Help Needed

Beth Lewis

Volunteers are needed to clean the facility at Broad Ave-North every other week. No one person has to do this alone – make it a family affair or team up with a friend and spend a couple hours of friendship together cleaning God's house. Cleaning supplies and list of tasks will be supplied. There will be a sign-up sheet or contact Beth Lewis to volunteer (722-6196).

This will be an on-going activity – **thank you** to everyone who has signed up to clean God's house!

Thank You

Dear Sunday school members,

Don and I would like to thank you very much for the Thanksgiving basket. It was a very thoughtful think to do. We did enjoy the goodies.

Many thanks to you all and hope everyone has a nice holiday.

Thank you,

Don & Anne Roe

Sunday School Children of Conklin Presbyterian Church,
This note is to thank all of you for the lovely Thanksgiving basket.

I really enjoyed it!!

In Christian love,

Laura Barnes

Conklin Presbyterian Church Sunday school classes,
We want to thank you so much for the lovely goodie plate we received for Thanksgiving.

It was so nice of the children and our whole church family to think of us at this time of giving thanks...

God bless you all,

B & Hank Snopek

November Financial Results

November 2016 Financial Results

[Dollars rounded to nearest \$100]

Balance Sheet

	2015	2016
Tioga Bank Checking balance	\$84,200	\$97,400
Undesignated balance	\$29,800	\$24,500

Due to a significant unexpected donation, our checking balance as well as our undesignated funds increased quite a bit. As you may recall, our October undesignated fund balance (“extra over funds held for”) was about \$9,500!

Profit & Loss

	November				YTD			
	2014	2015	2016	%	2014	2015	2016	%
Income	\$36,700	\$24,200	\$29,800	+23	\$280,200	\$259,500	\$241,400	-7
Expenses	\$30,800	\$25,500	\$16,200	-37	\$289,900	\$271,900	\$248,200	-8
Difference	\$5,900	[\$1,300]	\$13,600		[\$9,700]	[\$12,400]	[\$6,800]	

Last year, our December income was about \$33,000. Should it be 10% less, an estimate of December income could be about \$30,000 (down 10% from the previous year). Although our November income “surplus” of over \$13,000 is noteworthy, understand that number is WITHOUT the expense of a full time pastor (\$5,000). Last year, our December expenses were \$30,000. IF, the revenue & expense guesstimates are close to the actual, our year to date excess of expenses over income will be about -\$7000.....we budgeted a \$9,600 “loss”. Further, we chose not to take additional monies out of our endowments....we could have taken up to about \$24,000 but we have taken much less!

In Christ's Service,

Your Stewardship Team and
Financial Secretaries,

Barb, Dana, Dave, Jack, Wayne
Cathy, Nancy, Shirley

December/January Stewardship Report

Our Stewardship Team and Financial Secretaries are pleased to announce the results of our Church's 2017 Stewardship campaign to date. A few pledges still have yet to come in.

	2015	2016	2017
Increase in pledge	39	15	20
Remained the same	30	20	18
Decreased Pledge	6	5	6
Contribute but don't pledge	15	38	54

The 2017 budget has been completed and will be submitted to our Session on 12/13/2016 for approval. Revenue has been forecasted to about \$232,000. The 2016 total should be in the neighborhood of \$268,000. We project 2017 expenses (with a pastor included) to be about \$289,000. This year's expenses should come in around \$271,000.

The excess of expenses over revenue of about \$56,000 can be funded out of our undesignated funds and endowments if/when necessary. Currently, our accessible endowments total about \$350,000.

We would indeed be remiss should we not thank the many volunteers at both campuses who spend a bunch of their time in service to our Lord and Savior and, at the same time, save our church a lot of expense. May God bless all of us!

In Christ's Service,
Your Stewardship Team and
Financial Secretaries,

Barb, Dana, Dave, Jack, Wayne
Cathy, Nancy, Shirley

Lay Leaders Needed

Carol Bell

Looking for Lay Leaders from January 22 through February 26. There will be a sign up sheet in the North Hall or see Carol Bell.

Communion Servers Needed

Carol Bell

If you are an Elder or a Deacon and would like to serve communion, please contact Carol Bell.

Guest Pastor Schedule

Carol Bell

January 1st-----Rev. Barbara Schwartz

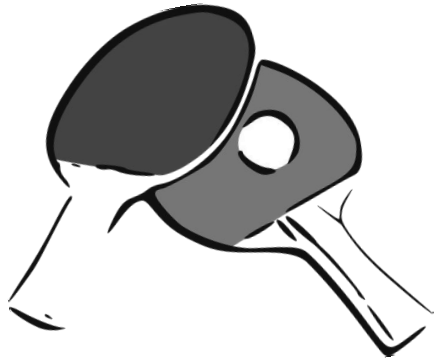
January 8th-----Rev. Barbara Renton

January 15th—February 26th----Rev. Barbara Schwartz

Family Game Night

Carol Fuller

Family Game Night



Up for a ping pong challenge?

Don't be left out,
come join the fun!

Friday January 20th

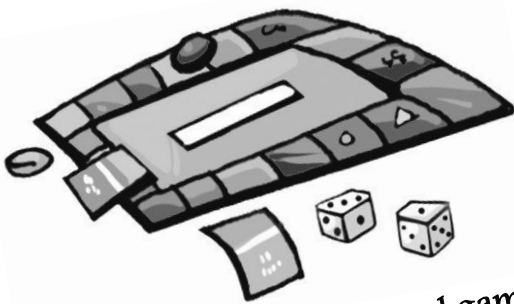
@ 7 PM



Interested in a game of cards?

CPC Fellowship Hall

Bring a snack to
share and your favorite
beverage.



Play your favorite board game.

Address service requested

Conklin Presbyterian Church
1175 Conklin Road
PO Box 151
Conklin, New York 13748

Phone: 607.775-0365
Fax: 607.775-4318
Email: conklinpres@aol.com
Web Site: conklinpres.org

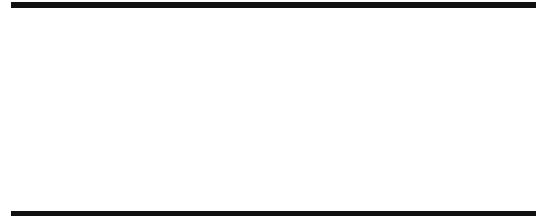
January 2017

Non-Profit Organization

US Postage Paid

Conklin, NY

Permit #4



Pie Night!

is on

Friday, January 6th
Serving from 6—7:30 PM
Conklin Presbyterian

BOWL of Plenty

Free Community Dinner

Thursday, January 12th
6 PM—Conklin Presbyterian Church

Game Night

is on Friday, January 20th
7 PM @ Conklin Presbyterian