

January 2018

Greetings friends!

The season of Christmas is upon us. We have done our Advent waiting and preparing and now we can celebrate the miracle of God becoming incarnate – flesh and blood – to come among us and teach us about God’s abounding love. Thinking about this miracle always leaves me a little bit speechless. God loves us so much that God became a messy, finite, human being just like us to teach us about compassion, justice, humbleness, and grace. Jesus, Emmanuel – literally from the Hebrew “God with us” – came to show us what God has been trying to have us do from the beginning.

The time of Jesus’ birth was a time of violence, of greed for power and money, and of fear. People in power wanted to stay that way and any talk of doing things differently than what the Roman Empire dictated was not tolerated. And this was precisely the time that God came to tell us and show us that there was (and is) a better way. Jesus taught people that true leaders did not order people around and oppress the weak for selfish gain. Leaders were servants of the people, making sure that people had enough to eat, that their medical needs were taken care of, that they had a community of support around them, and that they were loved by God. Over and over, Jesus physically demonstrated these lessons by going out to the marginalized in various communities, and he taught, fed, touched, listened, prayed, and ate with many people. People like him as a learned Rabbi, people not like him by being a widow, orphan, or having a disability, and people in power who needed to see another way.

This Christmas season – that stretches into the New Year and then into Epiphany – let us try to remember the awesomeness of what God did to show us God’s love. And then may we find the strength, courage, and compassion to be like Jesus and bring God’s light and love to all around us.

Grace and Peace,  
  
Pastor Becky

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## January Birthdays

January 1	John Colley
January 3	Nancy Little
January 4	David Blake
January 6	Millie Simmons
January 7	Maura Cleary Lorna Kinsman Lori Perez
January 16	Mike Patchen Gina Mangino Stephens
January 19	Beverly Osterhout
January 20	Sheri Brewer
January 24	Jerrod Trudell
January 26	Blanche Patrician
January 28	Ralph Fuller
January 30	TJ Adams

## January Anniversaries

January 24 ----- George & Kathy Schuster

## Annual Meeting

*Karla Toman*

Our annual meeting will be on Sunday, February 4, 2018 at Conklin Presbyterian Church. Reports are due to the **office no later than January 14th**. A draft will be available on January 28th.

Also on the February 4th is the ordination and Installation of officers.

## Dessert Night Fund-Raiser

*Wayne Barlow*

Dessert Night will be on Friday, January 19th from 6:30 PM to 8 PM. In the North Hall. Hot and cold drinks will be served that night. Suggested contribution is \$5 for drinks and dessert. A variety of desserts will be available.

If you would like to contribute a dessert and/or volunteer to help with this fund-raiser, please call Wayne Barlow at 775-9875. Please leave a message if he's not there. A sign-up sheet for desserts will be available in the Narthex.

## Healing Prayer

*Dot Conklin*

Julie Allen	Paul Ives
Jon & Betty Anderson	Pat Jackson\
Alexandra Atwood	Chuck and Nancy Little
Baby Quinn, 1 year	Sandy & Bill Llewellyn
Joan Barrett	Jody Nagel
David Birdsall	Jan Patchen
Allen Bonner	Jan Quigley
Mary Borley	Mary Rader
Family of Wayne Bowdish	Don Roe
Georgia Brundege	Jonathan Rouse
Christian	Rosemarie Rullo
Debbie	Donna Scotton
Family of Norman (Baldy)	Maddie Shaw
Dedrick	Millie Simmons
Family of Boyd Devine	Douglas Ticknor
Merle Grenell	Lynn & Frank Whitney
Family of Richard Hein	Mark Zier
Howard Henderson	Our Church
Family of Doris Hickok	

**Update:** Healing Prayer Service time and day has been changed. It will be held once a month on Wednesdays at Noon, after the Ladies' Bible Study Class, here at CPC. The first Healing Prayer Service won't be until sometime in January. We'll keep you posted when it will resume.

## Un-Decorate the Church

*Carol Bell*

We will be un-decorating the church on Sunday, January 7th after our Worship Service. Many hands make light work, so plan on staying to help!

## BAN Chapel Congregational Calendar

Sunday Worship Service – 9:00

Building/Grounds-----Beth Lewis

Deacons -----Judy Evans, Debbie Konnick,  
Betty Ann Puzo, and Nancy Rychlewski

Christian Education -----Debbie Konnick

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

Fellowship/Personnel CPC -----Mary Sternquist

Fellowship/Nurture CPC-----Bev Emmett

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

Worship/Bulletin/Newsletter-----Marian Vergason

BAN WOC (Women of the Church) ---- Mary Sternquist

AA Meets Saturdays at 7:00 PM

**Chapel Meeting:** January 6th at 9:30. All are welcome.

Christmas Tree take down following Chapel meeting.

Many hands make light work.

Communion: January 7th

## BAN Worship

*Marian Vergason*

Wishing everyone a happy, healthy New Year! Prayer is powerful. Keep those in your prayers who are less fortunate, those that are hungry, those who are homeless, those who have health concerns, those who can’t seem to find their way back from whatever keeps them down, those who have found the ‘door’ but will not open it to accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior. They need our prayers. And continue to pray for Peace in this world.

## BAN Deacons

*Betty Ann Puzo*

Please keep our shut-ins in your thoughts and prayers especially during the holiday season. Sending a card or making a phone call can make a difference in someone’s life. Start your year out by making a resolution to be in contact with those people who have been ‘out of the picture’ for various reasons. Let them know you are thinking about them. YOU can make a difference! Our shut-ins include Naomi Clark and Bill Emmett.

## BAN Christian Education

*Debbie Konnick*

Our Christmas Tea on December 10<sup>th</sup> was overflowing with fellowship, an abundance of delicious food and beautiful Christmas music on the hammered dulcimer and guitar provided by Curt Osgood and Annie!

I have been in contact with Calvin Coolidge Elementary School and have joined their mentoring program. During our last Chapel meeting, we discussed partnering with Calvin Coolidge to support their efforts with children on the East Side. We have provided the staff with trays of cookies to introduce ourselves and show our appreciation for what they do for the local children. This program is part of the Binghamton School District mentoring program. I will be providing more information on some things that we will be doing after my next meeting. If anyone is interested in becoming a mentor for a child, you can contact Mary Ann Dorner, Mentor Coordinator at 762-8100 Ext. 313. She is in need of mentors at Calvin Coolidge. The program requires you to spend 1 hour a week during the school year with your mentee. You can also talk with me about the program. I really feel that this is a program that is a blessing to be part of and that through it we can make a difference. What a great way to start your New Year!

## Church Office

*Karla Toman*

The Church office will be closed between Christmas and New Year’s Day. Karla will be back in the office on Tuesday, January 2nd.

## Stewardship—November

Jack Bell

As we all get caught up in the hustle and bustle of this festive and blessed season, I reflect on how thankful we all are for what we have and how we appreciate all our fellow worshipers. Our Stewardship campaign resulted in (from the results we have through 12/17/17) 11 pledgers who were able to give more, 15 who were able to give what they did last year and 5 who pledged a bit less than in 2017. More importantly, worshipers were able to “step up” and give their most valuable asset.....THERE TIME! Remember that “magic bank account” we all have? 86,400 seconds each day...and what we don't spend.....goes away forever.....if you can....give God's church some of those “wasted” seconds.....you are, and will be.....further blessed by Him!

THANK GOD for past members who funded our church's endowments! Had they not taken the care and time to provide these funds....that are over HALF A MILLION dollars, we would not be in the position to pull from those funds to handle emergencies and continue our quest to follow HIM! Although I am at the end of my time on Session, I plan to continue to be part of your Stewardship team (if they will have me). It was my privilege and pleasure to serve our church as chairman these past six years and will continue to do the best I can to serve our church and our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

### 2017 November Financial Results

*\* figures rounded to nearest \$100*

#### Balance Sheet:

	2017	2016
Tioga checking account	\$86,600	\$94,440
Unrestricted fund balance	\$11,800	\$24,100

#### Revenue & Expenses:

	November				YTD thru November			
	2015	2016	2017	%	2015	2016	2017	%
Revenue	\$24,200	\$29,800	\$16,600	[45]	\$225,500	\$241,400	\$213,500	*[12]
Expenses	\$25,500	\$16,200	\$33,000	94	\$271,900	\$248,200	\$223,500	[10]
Difference	[\$1,300]	\$13,600	[\$16,400]		[\$12,400]	[\$6,800]	*[\$10,000]	

At first glance, November appears to be a financial disaster....but there are extenuating circumstances:

1. A large gift of near \$10,000 was given in November of 2016 but in 2017, it was received in October. However....the year to date would “wash”.
2. \*As many of you know, we had to get a new boiler that controls the hot water heat in the Sanctuary. It was \$12,000 and was expensed in November. However, the monies to pay for it came out of the endowments and were deposited in December. It will “wash” by the end of the year. Had we received it and booked it in November, income would have been \$12,000 higher in both Nov as well as YTD. Our percent of income decrease YTD is really closer to about 6.5% instead of the 12% shown above.

#### Endowments:

New Covenant Funds	\$360,000	Approximately
LPL (Tioga bank)	\$181,000	Approximately
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$541,000</b>	

We anticipate pulling another \$4,000 out to pay for the bathroom repairs in December.

In Christ's Service,  
Your Stewardship Team—Barb, Dana, Dave, Jack

# SEPARATE CHECK CLUB

*It's no fun eating alone, join your Church friends at*



1247 Vestal Parkway

**TUESDAY  
JANUARY 9TH  
12:00**

*Please sign up by Sunday  
January 7th so you  
can be included in the reservation.*



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](mailto:conklinpres@aol.com)

Web Site: [conklinpres.org](http://conklinpres.org)

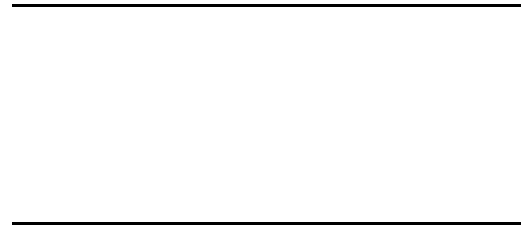
January 2018

Non-Profit Organization

US Postage Paid

Conklin, NY

Permit #4



# Bowl of Plenty

Free Community Dinner on  
Thursday, January 11th @ 6 PM  
Conklin Presbyterian Church

# Separate Check Club

Lunch will be at CopperTop Tavern  
on Thursday, January 9th at 12 Noon  
(see inside for more details)

# Dessert Night

Friday, January 19th  
6:30 PM—8 PM at Conklin Presbyterian Church