



The Ambassador

DELTA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Words From Wendy

As we begin a new year, we will have many opportunities that come our way. Some of those opportunities will be welcome, some will be bittersweet. There will be one constant through those opportunities: God's presence and guidance with us. There will also be times when God is leading us in directions that aren't comfortable, or are not where we envisioned going. We will be called to trust God, and that will stretch us and grow us.

The most important thing we can do during this time is to keep our focus on God and commit ourselves to following where God leads, recognizing that God may lead us in unexpected directions.

Living into Our Vision

Make sure you take some time to read about what the Prayers and Squares group accomplished in 2023. They are truly showing Christ in our community. Each of their quilts has a tag in it identifying it as having been made by the quilters here at Delta. Each one of those quilts is a reminder of how we live out Christ's love in the community.



Delta Presbyterian Church

Strengthening Christ in us
Sharing Christ among us
Showing Christ around us

www.deltapresby.org

January Events at Delta

- **Taking down the Greens** Sunday, January 7, following the worship service.
- **Ordination and Installation** will be Sunday, January 14. We will also welcome visitors from Dimondale.

From the Session



The Session is putting together a committee to plan Wendy's retirement celebration on May 19, 2024. We are looking for volunteers to help with the planning. If you are willing, please talk to Nancy Ellis (517) 321-3913.

Spotlight on Mission

Thank you all for your support of our Adopted Family for Christmas. They were overwhelmed by our generosity. For January, we are collecting socks and underwear for our Toasty Toes Campaign. They will be distributed to various ministries for the homeless in our area.



*Words
From
Wendy*

Opportunities to Serve

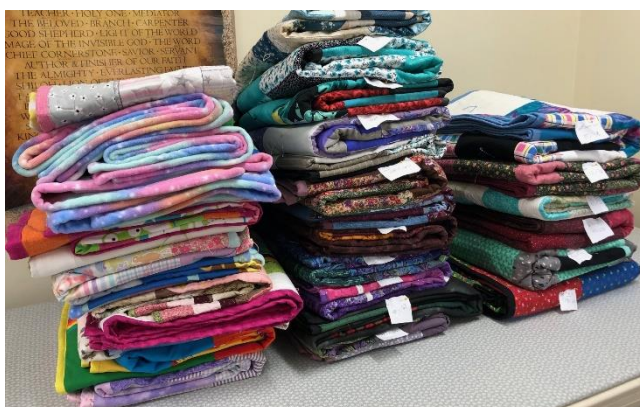


We are in need of volunteers to serve in a variety of tasks. Check out the Commitment Center to see what the opportunities are. Currently, sign-up sheets include:

- Serving as greeters on Sunday morning.
- Providing food for the fellowship time following worship.

Prayers and Squares

The Prayers and Squares Quilting group of Delta had an amazing and busy year. They made and distributed 79 quilts in 2023. These quilts were of various sizes and went to a variety of people and organizations: 4 to congregational care, 30 to Shared Pregnancy (an organization that provides emotional, material, and spiritual support through pregnancy and beyond), 13 to Sleep in Heavenly Peace (an organization that makes twin size beds for those in the community that otherwise would not have a bed), 27 to Country Stitches (a local quilt shop that distributes the quilts to a number of nursing homes and such organizations in the community), and finally 5 to the Adopt-A-Family that Delta supported this year. A thank you to all those that participate in or support the group. This photo is just a sample of the quilts made.



Financial Update (from the Resources Committee)

As of the end of November:

Pledge Receipts: Nov. \$8,428, YTD \$130,581

Budget \$141,500 = 92.3%

Results: Nov. Total Receipts \$9,215, Expenses \$14,466, deficit of \$(5,251)

YTD results = Receipts \$138,230, Expense \$151,928, deficit of \$(13,698).



Thank you to everyone who has returned their estimate of giving. If you haven't, you can bring it to worship on Sunday or mail or drop it off to the church office.

Celebration Choir

A BIG "Thank You" to the Celebration Choir for singing for our Christmas Eve evening service. They were directed by Ellen Jackson. They will not be singing in January.

Cause to Rejoice!



Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Philippians 4:4

God continues to be at work in and through us as we seek to serve God in our community. There is always cause to rejoice!

We rejoice in Ellen's ongoing support of Shelly as she learns how to fill the Administrative Assistant position.

We rejoice in the opportunity we had to host Starlight Theater for their production of It's a Wonderful Life.

We rejoice in the attendance at the Capital City Ringers Christmas Concert on December 11.

We rejoice in the people who are willing to step up and help out when things don't go exactly as planned.

We rejoice in the ongoing support we provide one another during the struggles of life.

We rejoice in the bounty we were able to give to our Adopted Family for Christmas. Thank you for your generosity.

We rejoice in your generosity to the church. Even with some deaths in 2023, our pledge income was higher than what was budgeted.

We rejoice in your generous pledges for 2024.

We rejoice that you continue to be willing to serve, and thank those of you who have completed your service and those who are continuing or beginning ministry with the session and deacons.

What gives you cause to rejoice around Delta? Let us know and we will include it here next month.

Worship

Sunday, January 7, 2024

Epiphany

Communion

Isaiah 60:1-6

Matthew 2:1-12

Arise, Shine

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

John 1:43-51

Known

Sunday, January 21, 2024

3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Psalm 62:5-12

Mark 1:14-20

Follow Me

Sunday, January 14, 2024

2nd Sunday after Epiphany

Ordination & Installation



Sunday, January 28, 2024

4th Sunday after Epiphany

Psalm 11

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Seek and Trust

SESSION

Class of 2024

Doug Dykstra

Nancy Ellis

Meredith Jackson

Chuck Jennings

Art Kelley

Sue Settle

DEACONS

Class of 2024

John Elsinga

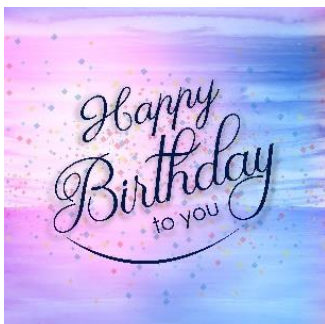
Geri Jennings

Mary Jo Kelley

Ginny Noble

Bonnie Reemsnyder

Jane Thomas



Birthdays

Jan 10

Jan 15

Jan 16

Jan 21

Isaiah Woloszyn

Ginny Noble

Aiden Woloszyn

Isaac O'Neill

Let Us Pray

Pray for the people of the Ukraine and of Israel and Palestine as they deal with the continuing suffering of war. Also pray for the following people: week of January 7: Jack & Sue Keys, Mary Koehler, Roger & Holly LaPratt; week of January 14: Mary Ann Martin, Sharon McPherson, Richard & Mary Mead; week of January 21: Mary Meier, Bob & Ginny Noble, Janice Oudbier; week of January 28: Kathy Peters, Wendy & Lena Pratt, Ira Purchis.



Prayer Care January, 2024

Family of Suzanne Butler (Mary Ann Martin's daughter), Suzanne died Dec. 27
Holly LaPratt, health concerns
Holly Brock, health concerns

Continuing Prayers January, 2024

Shirley Twichell, health concerns, cousin of Denise Colosky
Susan, Pat Baker's niece, cancer
Lisa Dingwell, health concerns
Donna Dickert, continuing health concerns
Nate Batterbee, Nancy Ellis' grandnephew, recovery from stroke and surgery
Sue Keys, continuing recovery and adjustment from broken arm
Flora Gilbert, health concerns
Kathy Peters, at Masonic Home, Alma
Sharon McPherson, health concerns
Adam LaPratt, son of Roger & Holly LaPratt
Mary Ann Martin, health concerns



Thank you, Delta



We just received a Thank You card from First Presbyterian Church of Dimondale for supporting their food pantry. "I would like to thank you for your generous financial gift to our food pantry. We greatly appreciate your support of our ministry. Wishing you a joyful and peaceful New Year. Peace, Jill Brown"

Knitting and Crocheting Group

Mondays at 1:30 pm we gather in the Pastor's Study to knit and crochet. We make prayer shawls, hats, and whatever else may be needed. We also talk about all sorts of things. The fellowship is at least as important as what we accomplish. We invite you to join us. We have a number of prayer shawls that were given to us for distribution. We are looking for places where they are needed and would be appreciated. Please let Wendy know about any places in need of prayer shawls.



January 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 New Year's Day Office Closed	2	3 9:30 am Prayers & Squares	4	5	6
7 Epiphany 10 am Worship Communion	8 12:30 pm Spiritual Life 1:30 pm Prayer Shawl 4:00 pm Resources 6:00 pm Girl Scouts 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	9 3:00 pm Strategic Planning	10 9:30 am Prayers & Squares	11	12	13
14 2nd Sunday after Epiphany 10 am Worship	15 1:30 pm Prayer Shawl 6:00 pm Girl Scouts 6:30 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm Session (Zoom)	16	17 9:30 am Prayers & Squares 3:00 pm Deacons (Zoom)	18	19	20
21 3rd Sunday after Epiphany 10 am Worship	22 1:30 pm Prayer Shawl 6:00 pm Girl Scouts 6:30 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm OCD Support	23	24 9:30 am Prayers & Squares	25	26	27
28 4th Sunday after Epiphany 10 am Worship	29 1:30 pm Prayer Shawl 6:00 pm Girl Scouts 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	30	31 9:30 am Prayers & Squares			

Updated Calendar

Check out the church website for an up-to-date calendar at www.deltapresby.org. Thanks to Art for his work on keeping it current.

The Ambassador

Delta Presbyterian Church
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E-mail: office@deltapresby.org

January 4, 2024

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor: Wendy S. Pratt
Admin. Assistant: Shelly Shinevar
Clerk of Session: Meredith Jackson
Treasurer: Bill Stirling
Auditor: Joe Frick
Financial Secretary: Fran Johnston
Accompanist: Mengyao Zhao (Chloe)
Adult Choir Dir.: Ellen Jackson
Website Coordinator: Art Kelley



***“We are ambassadors for Christ, God making
His appeal through us.” II Cor 5:20 .***

We're on the Web!
www.deltapresby.org

Announcements

Let Us Know. When you have prayer requests, would like a visit, are going to be out of town, or have a change in your contact information, please email the office at office@deltapresby.org or call and leave a message on voicemail.

Ambassadors. Delta's newsletter, The Ambassador, is sent out once a month. If you are currently NOT receiving this newsletter by email and would like to, please let the office know and we will put you on the email list.

Communication. We will be posting important updates on our website: www.deltapresby.org and on our Facebook page. If you have not liked our Facebook page yet, please do so that you will be able to see the updates. If you are not currently receiving updates by email and would like to, please email office@deltapresby.org and let us know. If you no longer want to receive email and prefer to receive news and information via U.S. Mail, please call the office and leave a voicemail if the office is closed.

Contributions. If you are not attending worship, please mail or drop off your offerings to the church. Twice a month, Jim Constandt and Fran Johnston will come in to take care of them and get them deposited.

Website Calendar. If you have events that need to go on the website calendar, please let Art Kelley know.

Papergator. Feed our Papergator! The paper, books, and cardstock are recycled, and the church is paid for the amount collected.