

November 2026



First Pres. Press

FROM THE PASTOR

Faith, Hope, and Love in This Season

What is this season for you? A momentous election? A time of growth and change? A quieting and turning inward as the earth leans away from the sun and the days gently darken? An increasing need to hold control lightly as those you love grow into their own sense of self and explore their own paths?

As followers of the Christ we are grounded in faith (more than official beliefs or statements) but faith in the sense of trusting the God we have come to know. Even as our beliefs and experience of God change as we grow the foundation remains the same: God is trustworthy. Even when as Thomas Merton prayed "I will trust you always though I may seem to be lost..." We hold on to God's hand as a child holds on their adult's hand crossing the street.

Hope is the virtue that causes us to lift our eyes to see and imagine (remember, its a deep kind of seeing in the mind) God's future. Far more than a wish its a Divine picture that we are invited to help bring into reality. When we lift our eyes to the horizon our hearts tend to open and relax, too.

Love is what animates us, enlivens us, and makes faith and hope concrete in the moment. It is what connects us to those others around us that we might go forward together as a family or community or country or human race. Without giving AND receiving a love that is self-giving and constant, faith devolves into mere words and hope shrinks to mere wishing. But love makes them alive infused with the presence of Divine love.

Let's enter this season grounded, with eyes lifted, and hearts open to God.

Pastor Garrett



Pastor Garrett is available in-person at the church
Mon, Tue and Thur 9:30 - 12:30 or by appointment.

CHURCH BULLETIN BOARD

We appreciate you Pastor Garrett



A Heartfelt Thank You to Our Congregation

From the very first Sunday, when we transformed Fellowship Hall into a Rummage Sale by changing our round tables into long tables, to the days that followed, our congregation was a tremendous part of making this sale happen.

Thank you to everyone who brought in their wonderful *STUFF* and took the time to place it neatly in the designated areas. Without your generosity and donations, we wouldn't have anything to sell!

And finally, a special thank you to those who came back at the end of the sale to help clean up the remaining items and deliver them to the Rescue Mission, where they could be donated and put to good use.

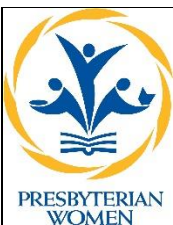
It truly takes a church family working together to make something like this happen. Every helping hand, every donation, and every act of kindness made a difference.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you for your generosity, your willingness to help, and for being such an important part of our Rummage Sale.

Gratefully, from my heart,

Coleen Clapper

Elsie O'Neil Circle, Chair



With our **“Blessings & Bargains” Rummage Sale** behind us, I thought you'd enjoy seeing how our profits have grown over the past few years!

It's wonderful to look back and see what we've accomplished together. Every donation, every hour spent sorting and pricing, every baked good, and every helping hand has contributed to our success.

Our sale is truly a reflection of our Circle's Four F's: **Faith, Fellowship, Friendship & Fun!**

Thank you all for being part of this wonderful effort. We have so much to be proud of, and it's exciting to see how, working together, we continue to make a difference!

With appreciation and gratitude,

Coleen Clapper

Elsie O'Neil Circle Chair

Blessings & Bargains — Rummage Sale Profits

Jewelry Sales	Bake Sale	Rummage Sale
2026: Approx. \$50.00	2026: \$513.00	2026: \$1,717.00
2025: \$53.51	2025: \$331.50	2025: \$1,063.44
	2024: \$305.70	2024: \$746.30
Total Profits by Year	2026: \$2,280.00	
	2025: \$1,448.45	
	2024: \$1,052.00	

What a wonderful increase in profits over the past three years! Our success is a true reflection of the generosity, hard work, and dedication of our members and congregation. Thank you to everyone who donated, baked, priced, organized, shopped, and helped make our sale such a success!

Together, we continue to make a difference in the lives of others through our Elsie O'Neil Circle's mission of **Faith, Fellowship, Friendship & Fun!**



Congratulations to our Cookie Crumble Rumble winners!



**1st place - Jessica
Gorman**

2nd place - Betsy Payer

3rd place - Bonnie Santos



**HUNGER
KNOWS NO TIME**

NOVEMBER 14 AT 7 PM
210 HAZEL STREET
ST PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

**MUSICAL CONCERT TO
BENEFIT
BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK**

**Free Will Offering & Food
Donations Encouraged
\$10,000 Goal for the Night!**

STPAULSLIVERPOOL.ORG



Silent Night

An Advent Reading Gathering

December 1 • 6:30 pm
Church Library

Bring a book or choose one
from our shelves.
Enjoy silent reading, followed by
light refreshments and conversation.

Liverpool First Presbyterian Church Library
603 Tulip St. • Liverpool, NY
All are welcome.

CHRISTMAS NATIVITY GINGERBREAD BUILDING EVENT

Liverpool First Presbyterian Church
603 Tulip St., Liverpool, NY

SATURDAY,
DECEMBER 12

Session 1
10:00 am

or

Session 2
11:15 am

Your family will hear the Christmas story and then build
your own nativity scene to take home.

Reservations Required

Call (315) 457-3161 by Friday, Dec. 4

Liverpool Community Chorus Fall Concert

presents:

THE SEASON OF LOVE

Enjoy an afternoon of beautiful music at the Liverpool Community Chorus Fall Concert on Saturday, December 5, 2026 at 2:00 pm at the Liverpool High School Auditorium

Admission is \$15 for adults (age 18 and older), \$10 for students (age 11-17), and free for children 10 and under.

Come enjoy the gift of music and support our local community chorus!

Thank you,

Coleen Clapper, Betsy Payer & Bonnie Santos

NEWS FROM THE DEACONS



Prayer requests for the prayer chain?

Contact Leigh Anne Herd at laherd02@gmail.com or 315-727-0178



**Join the Deacons for
Hanging of the Greens**

December 6, 2026

3p.m. - 6p.m.

There will be crafts, cookie decorating, decorating the sanctuary, and missions work. Followed by dinner and christmas carols! **Everyone** is welcome!



The LFPC Deacons will be doing Nametag Sundays on the first Sunday of each month. See a Deacon upon arrival for your nametag.

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE CLERK

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE LFPC SESSION MEETING

October 13, 2026

**HIGHLIGHTS OF THE STATED MEETING OF
THE PRESBYTERY OF CAYUGA-SYRACUSE**

Additional details about the meeting and other information about the presbytery can be found in the weekly presbytery e-newsletter *Presbytery Matters*. Go to their website cayugasyracuse.org and click on the Resources tab.

MISSIONS

November Mission Challenge *for* Isaiah's Table

During Hanging of the Greens on December 6, we will pack 100 drawstring backpacks for our neighbors in need who come to the Table to be fed, be safe, and just be.



We need your help to fill the backpacks!

- Hand warmers
- Thermal gloves
- Ponchos
- Travel tissues
- Full size chocolate bars
- Fruit and grain bars
- Granola bars
- Sandwich crackers
- Candy canes

Please select tags for backpack items from the Christmas tree on the bulletin board in the Sanctuary.

Please bring donations to Fellowship Hall by Sunday, November 29.



BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK

Pudding cups & Fruit cups

Donations go to Liverpool Elementary Schools

The **Blessings in a Backpack** program is a national nonprofit program that works with local chapters to provide food during the school year to children

in need.

Those wishing to make monetary donations to support the program can write a check to "Blessings in a Backpack" and write "**Liverpool NY Chapter 1854**" on the memo line. Checks should be sent to Blessings in a Backpack Liverpool NY Chapter 1854, PO Box 52, Liverpool, NY 13088

If you have any questions regarding the above, or would like to volunteer to help pack, please contact Karen Fay at fimtay@gmail.com or talk to me during Fellowship Hour on Sunday mornings.

Isaiah's Table Little Pantry

Needs include ready-to-eat items (pop-top cans or pouches), cereal, pasta, cereal bars, bar soap, deodorant, feminine hygiene products, or a monetary donation made out to: "Isaiah's Table"

LFPC Little Church By The Bench

Needs include ready-to-eat items (pop-top cans or pouches), cereal, pasta, cereal bars, bar soap, deodorant, feminine hygiene products, or a monetary donation made out to "Isaiah's Table"



Monetary donations can be sent to:
1010 James Street, Syracuse, NY 13203

Any questions, contact the church office (315) 457-3161 or office@liverpoolfirstpres.org
Donations can be dropped off in the foyer during office hours and on Sunday before worship services.

FELLOWSHIP AND STUDY GROUPS

Join a Fellowship/Study Group

Fathers~Brothers~Sons (early risers) – 8:00am
Craft & Chat Group - 6:30pm
Becoming Faithful Followers (BFF) - 6:30pm
Manuscript Study -1:30pm
Elsie O'Neil Circle - 12:30pm
Book Club – 1:30pm
Choir - 7:00pm

2nd Sundays
1st & 3rd Mondays
2nd & 4th Wednesdays
1st & 4th Thursdays
2nd Thursday
3rd Thursdays
Thursdays

Contact church office for more information



Fathers • Brothers • Sons
is a new kind of men's gathering for a new day
Early Risers will meet on 2nd Sundays at 8:00 am

Meeting on November 8
Come and join the community!

together in faith • circle of trust • shoulder to shoulder • present in the moment



Craft & Chat!

Join a group of friends to craft & chat together. We gather on Mondays on the 1st & 3rd week from 6:30 to 8:00 pm in the LFPC library.

Whether you crochet, knit, make cards, draw, sew or any other craft you are welcome to join. Even if you don't craft, just come to chat. This is a casual gathering to share craft ideas, enjoy conversation with others and make new friends.

The gatherings will be Nov 2 & Nov 16. Please join us and feel free to bring a friend to the next gathering!!
Contact Lisa Bricault with any questions.



2nd & 4th Wednesdays
6:30 – 7:45 pm
Fellowship Hall

November 11, 2026, we will finish
The Things That Make for Peace

December 9, 2026
Christmas Celebration
6:30 PM Fellowship Hall
Join us! Bring your snack and beverage.

A new study will begin on January 13, 2027. Information will be in the December newsletter.

To sign up for this study, contact Linda Hook at hookdonzumba@gmail.com



Manuscript Study

Manuscript Study will meet the first and fourth THURSDAYS of the month at 1:30 - 2:30 in the church library.

Manuscript Study is a process of:

1. Reading Scripture without subheadings and verse separations
2. Observing repetitive themes and words, comparisons/contrasts, by highlighting, underlining, making notes and writing questions
3. Discussing observations and recognizing common themes in order to develop a central message
4. Praying for God's wisdom and guidance in applying this central message to our lives today

Our study this year will focus on the book of Acts. The only supplies needed are a pencil/pen and a Study Bible or a phone for research. If you have questions, please call Leigh Anne Herd.

3rd Thursday BOOK CLUB

Books • Conversation • Fellowship

NOVEMBER'S
BOOK

*Return to
the Shack*
Wm. Paul Young

November 19
1:30 pm
Church Library

All are welcome!

DECEMBER 17

The Christmas Candle
Max Lucado

JANUARY 21

Theo of Golden
Allen Levi

Questions? Contact Liz Wavle-Brown, ewavlebrown@proton.me

The book cover for 'Return to the Shack' by Wm. Paul Young. It features a serene landscape with a lake, mountains, and a small boat at sunset.

ELSIE O'NEILL/WOMAN'S ASSOCIATION

Our Circle is identified by the Four, "F's".

FAITH, FELLOWSHIP, FRIENDSHIP & FUN. Each one represents something special:

- Faith — Growing together in God's Word and love.
- Fellowship — Sharing our faith and supporting one another.
- Friendship — Caring for one another and building lasting bonds.
- Fun — Enjoying laughter, activities, and the joy of being together.

Together, these Four F's reflect the heart of our Circle and the spirit of our members.

We warmly invite all women of the church to join our Circle — a place where friendship, faith, and fellowship come together. We meet monthly on the **second Thursday at 12:30 PM** in the **Fellowship Hall**. We'll be meeting next on **NOVEMBER 12, 2026**, and we hope to welcome our faithful friends *and* many fabulous new faces!

Each month, we gather with brown-bag lunches and enjoy a delicious dessert provided by our members. Our time together includes updates on church life, meaningful service projects, and a light Bible study that often sparks rich and heartfelt conversation. Through laughter, learning, and shared prayer, we find strength and support in one another.

Whether you're looking for spiritual encouragement, new friendships, or simply a welcoming space to connect, the Elsie O'Neill Circle is here for you.

If you have any questions or would like to learn more, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Warm wishes,

Coleen Clapper

Elsie O'Neill Chair

LFPC LIBRARY

NEWS FROM THE **CHURCH LIBRARY**

New at Your Library

Bud Finds Her Gift, Robin Wall Kimmerer, ©2025

First Nations Version: Psalms and Proverbs, Terry M. Wildman, ©2025

Return to the Shack, Wm. Paul Young, ©2026

The Serviceberry, Robin Wall Kimmerer, ©2024

The Tears of Things, Richard Rohr, ©2025

New Issues: The Christian Century, Comment: Public Theology for the Common Good,
The Presbyterian Outlook, Reader's Digest

NEW BOOKS

STORY TIME

BOOK CLUB

MAGAZINES

EVENTS



For more information, chat with Liz during Coffee Hour, or
Email: ewavlebrown@proton.me



Text/Call: 607-882-0757



GOOD BOOKS



GREAT CONVERSATIONS



GROWING IN FAITH

If you are looking for stories, DVD's or other information, remember to check our online church library website: librarycat.org/lib/firstpres1829_Type in any search phrase you like. An advanced search is available, just click on the arrow to the right of the search box.

*Please note: We do not have electronic sign outs. Therefore, each item will say available. The only way to check if an item is available is to look for it in the library. Each item has a sign out card. Please fill out and leave in the tray next to the first door to the library.

Any questions, please contact Liz Wavle-Brown (ewavlebrown@proton.me)

CHURCH FAMILY BIRTHDAYS

NOVEMBER

1 – Brianna Farrelly
4 – Julie Morris
13 – Leigh Anne Herd, Liza Thibault
17 – Laura Santos, Tim Bricault
21 – Diana Marocco
22 – Linda Breckheimer
24 – Tim Overend
25 – Jayden Sanborn
26 – Ray Campbell, Jim Harris

(if anyone has been omitted from this list, please contact the church office)



GIVE TO LFPC



If you are able, please **continue make your regular financial offering** to the church by mailing your check to Treasurer, Liverpool First Presbyterian Church, 603 Tulip Street, Liverpool NY 13088 or on our website at: <https://liverpoolfirstpres.org/give> or download the mobile app “Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement”

Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse E-News

Our goal is to highlight things going on throughout the Church: within our Presbytery, in our congregations, as well as in the Synod of the Northeast and across the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

To subscribe see: <http://cayugasyracuse.org>

The **December 2026 Newsletter Deadline** is **Monday, Nov 23 by 12 noon**. Please get all articles and pictures into the church office by the deadline. You may call the office at 315-457-3161 or email office@liverpoolfirstpres.org

