

PASTOR'S MESSAGE FOR THE JANUARY 2020 MESSENGER



Christmas is over ... now what? We have celebrated the birth of the messiah, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior ... what will we do now? Do we go back to our pre-Christmas ways or do we allow the Holy Spirit to use this celebration to change how we live our lives? This piece by the great Presbyterian poet, Ann Weems, may help point us to an answer.

January's Song

There is a rumor on the streets
that Christmas is over.
Lights and ornaments are packed away,
trees dragged to the curb,
people back to business as usual.
We're no longer in the party mood;
the humbugging is back in vogue.

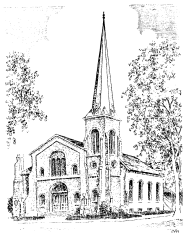
This is January ...
How can Christmas be over?!
The Child is just newborn,
the song of Peace and Goodwill
still rings in our ears.
The shepherds and sages still kneel
to this One who is born to us ...
just born to us!

How can Christmas be over??
The story of the gospel is just beginning.
We who saw the Star
now live in its Light.
We who saw and heard
now believe.

Christmas is not over.
We're just beginning
to follow this One who calls
us now to Live in the Light of Love.
Christmas is not over.
It's just beginning
and this is January's song.

A very Happy New Year to you and all whom you love. May we never cease to sing together January's song.

Your brother in Christ Jesus,
Pastor Jeff



CORNERS AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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The Creighton and Laura Lawhead Memorial Youth Bible Fund

The purpose of this fund is to provide Bibles for the youth of the church as their first Bible. A secondary purpose is to provide Bibles for the children's Sunday School and youth programs of our church.

Created in December 2014 by the three sons of Creighton and Laura Lawhead and their families as a memorial to their parents in special recognition of their contributions to the Sunday School and youth programs of our church.

Creighton served as Sunday School Superintendent for twenty years from 1951 – 1971. In that role, Creighton presented each of our youth his or her first Bible, signed by Creighton and including a reference to scripture of II Timothy 2:15.

The Lawhead family wishes to have this tradition reinstated and provided for the indefinite future.



Thank you for all your contributions towards the Red, White and Pink Poinsettias. Provided by Northside Florist in Corning.



With your help, the Salvation Army provided 307 Corning children with 3 gifts each this Christmas. This is approximately 921 gifts in total. Your support of this years Salvation Army Annual Corning Christmas Program is a blessing to all!

Church Cancellation Update

The Worship Committee has made some revisions to our inclement weather policy effective January 1, 2020. If the weather outside is frightful on a Sunday morning and you are not sure whether or not church will be in session, you can now check the following.

Turn on the TV to WETM 18 News and watch the scrolling cancellation notices at the bottom of the screen.

As always we will be updating the One Call Now phone system and leave you a message on your phone. We recently had a Sunday cancellation and all should have received a message on your phones. If you didn't receive a cancellation call, let Rosie know in the office via email to verify your contact information is correct. Thank you.

**Donate new socks and
under garments for the
Salvation Army
Clothing Closet.**

**The Deacon's Dresser
Drawer
in the Narthex**





A special note of thanks goes out to all the people who donated food and volunteered to help at the annual Christmas Dinner. A special thanks to Barb Sammis who was our “Chief” again this year. Thanks also to the Deacons who organized reservations, transportation, and delivery of meals.

Prior to the dinner, people enjoyed snacks in the Pentecost Room and singing carols in the Sanctuary, which helped remind everyone of the real reason we celebrate Christmas.

We have a wonderful church family and as Pastor Jeff says - **there is no CH_RCH without U.**

Thank you again to everyone who made this annual Christmas Dinner a success!

WHEN YOU
GO THROUGH
DEEP WATERS,
I WILL BE WITH YOU.
ISAIAH 43:2



During Fellowship Time on December 22, the PLF Committee presented this beautiful cake and we celebrated by having a Birthday Party for Jesus.



Chancel Flowers

Thank you to everyone who so kindly provided flowers on Sunday mornings, over the last year, for the congregation to enjoy. The 2020 sign up sheet is now posted on the bulletin board for anyone who wishes to sign up for the upcoming year. At this time flowers are still \$27.00 and are provided by Buds N' Blossoms here in Painted Post.



Community Christmas Caroling December 15

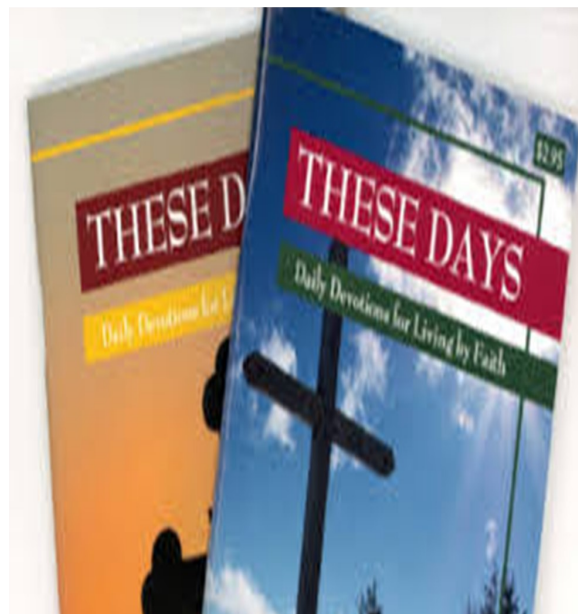


The Beautiful Sanctuary Advent Banners

Thank you so much to our Advent Banner Committee this year! Jennifer Nelson, Susan Vermillion, Alice Moore, Janet Jones, Janice Haynes and Rose Houper. The Banners in the sanctuary turned out awesome!



THESE DAYS
Daily Devotions for
Living by Faith
For
January/February/March
2020
are now available in the
back of the church



**Traditional Christmas Wassail and
Frank Hamm's 90th Birthday
December 15**





We had approximately 45-50 volunteers give of their time and skills to assist with the Christmas Day Dinner. Here are a few of their smiling faces





**Community
Christmas
Day Dinner
12/25/19**



New Church Office Hours

Beginning Thursday, January 2, the church office will have new hours. The office will be open from 9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon and from 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM, Monday-Thursday. For additional information please do not hesitate to call the office. Thank you.



The Mitten Tree

The mitten tree, started some 25 years ago, has become a tradition in our church. Several thousand items have been donated to the Salvation Army over the years. This year Martha Saunders, Kathryn Baker, Rose Houper, Margret Lapp, and others have knitted and donated over 100 items including mittens and gloves, hats, and scarves. We extend our thanks and appreciation to all who have participated for their generosity of time and talent.



JANUARY FELLOWSHIP SCHEDULE

**January 5 hosted by Mission & Outreach
January 12 hosted by Stewardship/Finance
January 19 hosted by PLF (Sue Conklin)
January 26 - Congregational Dinner hosted by PLF**

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

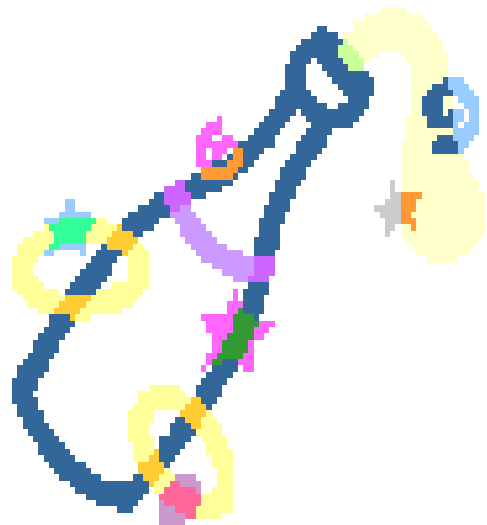
JANUARY 2020

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

- 5 Anna Jean Yoggy
*Wyatt Smith
- 17 Jennifer Nelson
- 19 Frances Backer
- 21 Kathy Keech
- 23 *Lydia Smith
- 26 Carol Flook
- 28 Barbara Young
Alice Moore
- 29 Stephanie Knutsen
- 30 Amita Neuner

Members, *children under 18, and non-member participants for whom we have birthday and anniversary information.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO



If we miss your special day, please let us know so we can include the information on our calendar.

JANUARY 2020

First Presbyterian Church
1 East First Street
Corning, NY 14830



Jesus is our focus in
all that we do.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 New Year's Day!  Church Office Closed	2	3 Church Office Closed	4
5 10:30a Worship 11:30a Fellow- ship	6 6:30p M&O	7 6:30p Handbells 7:30p Choir	8	9 5:30 Trustees 6:30 Deacons	10 Church Office Closed	11
12 10:30a Worship 11:30a Fellow- ship	13 4:15p PL&F 6:30p MG&E	14 6:30p Handbells 7:30p Choir	15	16	17 Church Office Closed	18
19 10:30a Worship 11:30a Fellow- ship	20	21 MLK Birthday  Church Office Closed 6:30p Handbells 7:30p Choir	22	23 6:30p Session	24 Church Office Closed	25
26 10:30a Worship 11:30a Church Dinner & Annual Congregational Meeting	27	28 6:30p Handbells 7:30p Choir	29	30	31 Church Office Closed	

THE MESSENGER

First Presbyterian Church

1 East First Street

Corning, New York 14830

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



**Jesus Is
Our
Focus
In All
We Do**

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 AM

FELLOWSHIP HOUR 11:30 AM

"He is the one you praise; he is your God, who performed for you those great and awesome wonders you saw with your own eyes."

Deuteronomy 10:21 (NIV)

Reverend Jeffrey Ugoretz, Pastor

E-Mail: pastorjeff@corningpresby.org

Church Phone: 607-937-5419

Church Office Hours:

**Monday-Thursday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
(closed 12 - 1 for lunch)**

Church E-Mail: office@corningpresby.org

Web Page: www.corningpresby.org



Fb.me/CorningFirstPresby

January

2020

The Messenger is published monthly.

DEADLINE for Messenger articles is the 15th of the prior month. Articles may be emailed to the church or left in the church office.