

# The Beacon

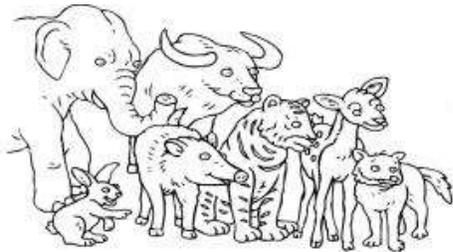
# November 2017

OGDEN-HILLCREST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
1061 CHENANGO STREET, BINGHAMTON NY 13901

**Joyce K. Allen, Pastor**

## *Communing with nature*

In *More Than Words* (Westminster John Knox), Erin Wathen tells of serving as pastor at a church where, following communion, the children take the leftover bread outside for the birds. One day, Wathen's own youngsters were playing church when they summoned her to a "meeting" for a new



church plan.

The kids had planned the building layout, an order of worship, a prayer garden, a grand-opening picnic – and something else, which Wathen didn't initially understand. Then her heart swelled with joy, recognizing that her daughter meant the post-Eucharist disposal of bread, which clearly, to the child, was a natural and assumed part of church. "[We need] a place," the girl stated casually, "for the animals to have communion."



## *Pastor's Page*

*I will fulfill my promises to you, God. I will present thanksgiving offerings to you because you have saved my life from death, saved my feet from stumbling so that I can walk before God in the light of life. Psalm 56:12-13*

How can it be that we are left with only two pages left on our calendars? It feels to me like the year just began but here we are in the season of giving thanks. God deserves our thanks and praise every day, yet we tend to save up our thanks to be given all at once in November.

The Psalmist asks us to remember that we have much to be thankful for, and it's not just turkey and warm homes. We are reminded that God has given us life itself, and through Jesus Christ, that life is both abundant here and now and out into eternity. That's something to be thankful for.

Our church family gives thanks together regularly, and there are lots of opportunities in November. Join us for our community service of thanksgiving or any other gathering. You will find yourself living out an attitude of gratitude with other people who are on a similar faith journey. It's been my experience that living out my thanks is easier to do when I'm surrounded by others who want to do the same. I pray that you find time to thank and praise God in this season of thanksgiving.

*Peace, Pastor Joyce*



## MISSION OPPORTUNITY

We are going to pack one hundred thousand meals for starving children around the world. However, we aren't going to accomplish that goal on our own. Southern Tier Mobilepack is hosting the packing party and we have signed up a group to go to Endwell UMC on Friday November 3<sup>rd</sup> from 5pm until 7pm.



Over 500 volunteers are needed for this Friday/Saturday event that will help local families and children around the world. If you would like to pack with the Ogden group, let Pastor Joyce know. We are asked to bring donations of canned good for local families we are advised NOT to wear jewelry which could end up in a meal. Thanks for considering this mission project!

## CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

Our next meeting will be World Community Day, held at Community Baptist Church:

743 Chenango Street

Port Dickenson

10:00 am to noon on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017



If we live by the  
**SPiRiT**,  
let us also keep  
in step with the  
**SPiRiT**.  
GALATIANS 5:25. ESV

**Theme:** "Kindling New Fires for Peace". Chairperson, Norma Manning.

**Maureen Hankin RDH, MPH**, will be our guest speaker; she will be speaking on "Haiti". She is the SUNY Broome Dental Hygiene Department Chairperson.

During the Holidays, check out our Christmas tree at Roberson Museum on Front St.

We will be placing more attention to "Water for All". They are helping to install water pumps, for rain harvesting systems. We will be taking an offering for "Water for All" at a later date.

## YOUTH GROUP NEWS

November 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

November will be a good month for our youth group. We are going to meet three times this month. On November 5<sup>th</sup> we will leave for lunch and a fall related activity right after church. Everyone is invited and youth group will pay. On the 12<sup>th</sup>, there will be a regular meeting at 5:30 in the church. We will make a craft, play some games and have a lesson time. On the 26<sup>th</sup> we are doing a helping project at church. We'll meet at 5:30 and carry down the Christmas decorations and the items for the Thrift Shop sale. Our reward will be a pizza party afterward.



Our youth group is open to anyone in middle or high school. Everyone is welcome. We usually meet twice a month, once in the church and once to go somewhere fun. You may want to mark your calendar now for our "Traveling Christmas Party" right after church on December 17<sup>th</sup>!

## WE HONOR OUR VETERANS



Join our Mission Committee for two special coffee hours on Sunday, November 12th! Our church family prays for our servicemen and women every week, but sometimes we forget to thank the ones we see in church every week. After each service on the 12th, there will be a coffee hour. We want to offer up our thanks and a piece of cake too. Everyone should plan to attend one of the coffee hours. We would welcome any of our veterans to wear their uniform, tell us where they were stationed or the branch they served. Also, please bring in any memorabilia you would wish to display

## DINNER GROUP

We've planned something special for November and December. This month our group heads over to Cortese Restaurant On November 17<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. Everyone is welcome but this is one of those times **YOU MUST SIGN UP AHEAD**. Please let Pastor Joyce or Jim know if you plan to attend. Seating is limited!



And mark your calendars now for the Second Annual Dinner Group Christmas Party! Everyone is invited for Phil's Chicken on December 15<sup>th</sup>. There will also be a dessert buffet and lots of fun!



Our annual church conference will be held along with the meetings of our neighboring UMC's, over at Chenango Bridge UMC at 10am on Saturday November 18<sup>th</sup>. At church conference we elect leaders for the coming year, we set the pastor's salary for next year and we vote on any candidates for ministry we may have. Please come out to support you church.

## COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Join your neighbors and friends at the Chenango Bridge UMC for our community Thanksgiving service. The music will be heavenly and we'll get to hear Rev Jenny Piatt of Nimmonsburg UMC preach. This service is always one of the highlights of the year for local Christians. We'll worship at 5:00 pm on November 19<sup>th</sup>.



Yes, it's a little early, but we're doing something different this year, so you'll want to mark your calendar. On December 24<sup>th</sup>, at 9:30 am we will celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Advent. There will be only ONE service that morning and no Sunday school. That evening, at 7pm, we will have our tradition candlelight Christmas Eve service.

## THE CHURCH MOUSE

You missed me! I took a little vacation and wasn't back in time to write my column last month. Pastor Joyce told me that at least ten different people mentioned that they missed my news. It's nice to be appreciated. But now let me tell you what happened. Pastor Joyce left on September 12, to have a little time at the beach, up in New Hampshire. Well, when I heard that the car was going, I stowed away in the trunk. At first it was fun. I followed the pastor in and out of several good lobster shacks, to the beach, and even on a harbor tour in Portsmouth. It was quite an adventure. Until she left and I wasn't back in the car.

Friends, I don't know if you've ever gotten lost, but I have now seen more of New England and upstate NY than I ever wanted to. I spent some time at the Cape when I slipped into a truck headed to route 495. I thought I was as far to the east as I could go, but I was wrong. The next option took me all the way north to Maine. Anyway, I finally found a truck headed down route 88 and I am home. It was nice to see different places and different mice and eat different foods but I am sure glad to be home. I wouldn't want to live anywhere else but Ogden Hillcrest UMC. You all feed me so well and treat me so nice.

While I was gone, my friend Jan Vincent died. She ran the Thrift Shop for years and was a really great woman who always thought about others. My friend Sandy Cincebox was in the hospital but she's feeling better now. I've missed Doris Slater, who hasn't been feeling up to par, and Shirley Christoff who has been away. Linda Judd left town really suddenly when her daughter Heather, pregnant with twins, was put on complete bed rest. Now Linda is in Florida helping Heather and her husband Doug. Joan Wilbur was away too and then had the nerve to come down with the flu when she got home, but she's all better now. You may have heard that the Masland family adopted Rashad. His name is now Adam Henry Masland. What a wonderful thing for Adam and for our whole church family. We're glad Alicia Masland is feeling better too. She gave us all a scare when she was in the hospital for a couple of weeks!

Thanks for missing me. I am glad I took a trip but I sure am glad to be back with you for worship. And the fact that Phil's Chicken is coming back soon has my mouth simply watering. I'm not going away again any time soon.

*Travel'n Mouse!*



**HOME SWEET HOME**



## Honor our veterans



Veterans Day, which is November 11 each year, is a holiday to honor America's veterans for their patriotism and willingness to serve and sacrifice for our nation's common good.

Christians follow the Prince of Peace, so war is a dilemma that often challenges people of faith. Some Christians are pacifists, while others believe in a "just war." Many believe that the goals of freedom, justice, equality and democracy are worth the cost required.

**Veterans Day** Whatever individual Christians decide about any given conflict, most Christians believe that men and women who strive to make this world free of tyrants are to be respected. As Winston Churchill said, "Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few."

Thank you to all the men and women who served or are now serving our country.



## Thanksgiving in other lands

We tend to think of Thanksgiving as a holiday unique to the United States. But America's neighbors to the north and south celebrated it even earlier than the Pilgrims' famed meal in 1621.



Canada's first Thanksgiving feast, held by English explorer Martin Frobisher, occurred in Newfoundland in 1578. The country's Thanksgiving observance is now on the second Monday in October, with holiday fixings that are similar to those enjoyed by Americans.

In Mexico in 1598, a large group of explorers, soldiers and Franciscans traveled on sand dunes in what's now the American Southwest. They were running low on water, so when they reached the Rio Grande, they expressed gratitude to God by feasting on fish, duck and geese. No official date is set for Thanksgiving celebrations in Mexico.

People of all nationalities have been giving thanks to God for as long as we've been on the earth.

### THANK YOU TO OGDEN

I want to say thank you to all who supported the WALK TO DEFEAT ALS this year. Team Case raised over \$2,700 this year for the Upstate New York ALS Chapter. The support from Ogden was a large part of our total donation. Thirty teams participated in the walk on Aug. 20th. A total of \$70,526.12 has been raised by these thirty teams to support The ALS Chapter.



**Thank You!  
For Walking for ALS**

Thank you for honoring John's memory in his hard fought battle in this fatal disease. He would have been honored by your love and support.

Please keep praying for those dealing with ALS and for their families. My prayer is that a cause for this disease is found in the near future after which a cure will come.

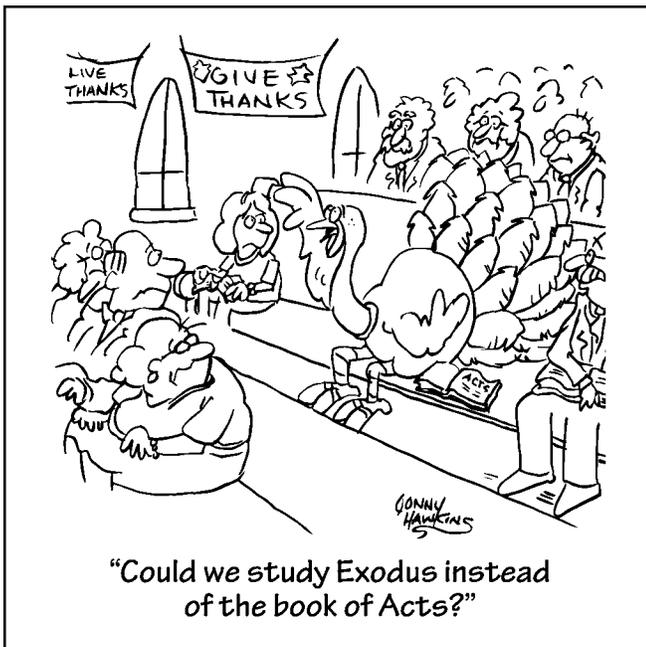
Thank you again for your love and support. May God Bless you.

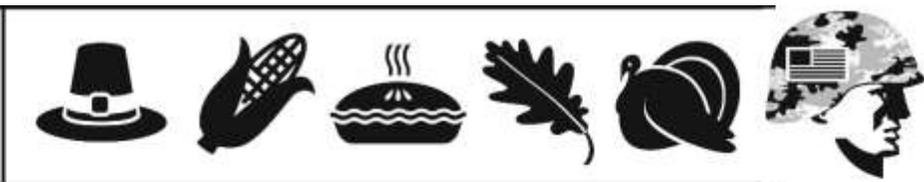
*Kathy Case*

# Puzzle!

This matching challenge involves words from stories in John's gospel. Draw lines to connect the pairs that *best* belong together.

ANDREW	WINE
DOVE	SIMON PETER
ELIJAH	JESUS
JOHN	CANA
LIGHT	MONEY CHANGERS
PHARISEE	NATHANAEL
PHILIP	NICODEMUS
RABBI	DARKNESS
TEMPLE	TEACHER
WATER	THE BAPTIST
WEDDING	PROPHET
WORD	SPIRIT



# NOVEMBER 2017

Friday Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> 5pm - 7pm, Endwell UMC Mobilepack.

CWU, World Community Day, at Community Baptist Church:  
743 Chenango Street, 10:00 am to noon

Sunday Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> All Saints Sunday

Fall Back

Youth Group – lunch & fall activity



Monday Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> 7pm Administrative Board meeting



Sunday Nov. 12 Honor Vets at Coffee hour after each service

Thanksgiving Baskets due at church

5:30pm Youth Group

Friday Nov 17<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm Supper Club – Cortese restaurant

Saturday Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> 10am, Chenango Bridge UMC – CHARGE CONFERENCE

Sunday Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> 5pm Community Thanksgiving Worship Service, Chenango Bridge UMC

Tuesday Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> 11am ~~BIBLE STUDY CANCELED~~

Thursday Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup> THANKSGIVING

Sunday Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> Youth Group 5:30pm – HELPING PROJECT, Thrift Shop & Christmas decorations brought from upstairs.

Monday Nov. 27<sup>th</sup> Thrift Shop – set up Christmas Sale

Tuesday Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> Thrift Shop – price Christmas Sale

Wed. Nov. 29<sup>th</sup> 9:30am Decorate the Church

Thursday Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> Christmas Sale Opens

*Poinsettias:* It is time to think about ordering your Christmas poinsettias, for our altar, in memory of your loved one. Order forms are printed below and may also be found in the back of the sanctuary or on the shelf at the back door.



**FOR OUR SANCTUARY**  
**DEADLINE IS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2017**

It is time to order your Christmas poinsettias. Our sanctuary has been made more beautiful each year by placing these flowers in memory of a loved one or in honor of someone special.

*Note: Please write a separate check to "Altar Guild" for your poinsettia order. DO NOT include it in with your regular offering because the poinsettia orders are handled through a different account.*

Give your order to Jim in the church office (723-2637) or to Sandy Cincebox (723-2115).

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**2017 POINSETTIA ORDER FORM**

**\$12 each - (Make check out to the "Altar Guild")**

Number of plants: \_\_\_\_\_

The poinsettia is presented by \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

*or*

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

**(FOR ADDITIONAL PLANTS)**

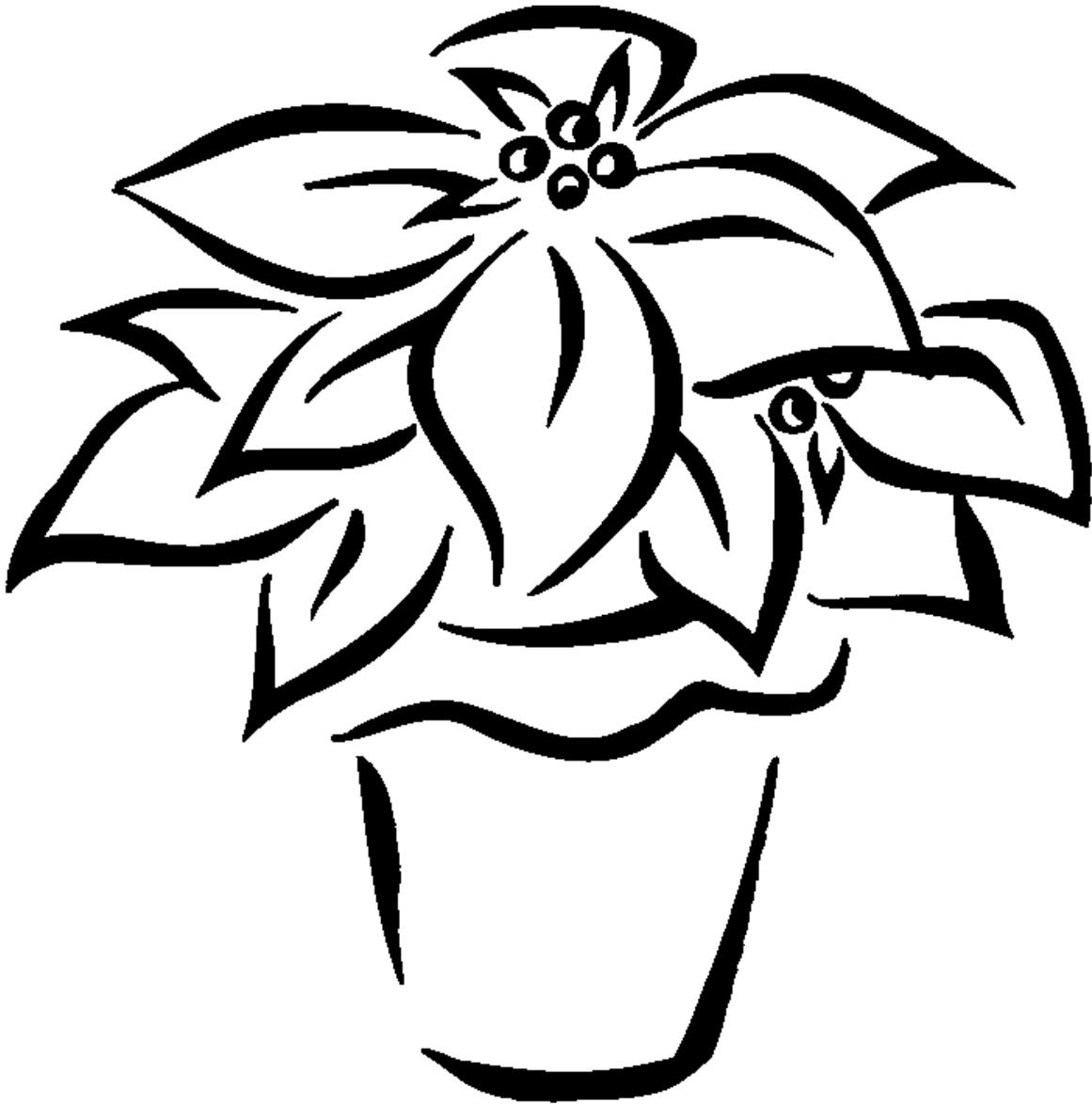
The poinsettia is presented by \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

*or*

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

COLORING BOOK PAGE



Order

Your *Poinsettias* Today