NORTH STAR

July 2024 - Making Disciples... Making a Difference

diving into friendship with GOO

Worship: Sunday at 9:30 am North Presbyterian Church 921 College Avenue Elmira, NY 14901-2048 www.northpres.church Phone: 607-734-2977

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July, 2024 A Letter from Pastor Hansen

In June, we began a new ministry. On the fourth Tuesday of every month, I will be leading a worship service with Communion, at Woodbrook, one of the assisted living communities in our area.

For my first service, I chose Mark 4:26-32 for the scripture passage. After writing the short, short sermon, I realized that it could be adapted for my newsletter article. Here is an adaptation of my reflection on Mark 4:26-32.

The kingdom of God is like a mustard seed...I wonder what the disciples' reaction was to that parable. Jesus was comparing the kingdom of God to a weed.

A couple of weeks ago, I was at a conference listening to a Korean woman who had immigrated to Canada. She talked about how when she first moved to Canada how horrified she was to see what we do to dandelions. In Korea, dandelions are not weeds. They are food. The leaves are used as greens. The roots have medicinal purposes. To watch people poison, uproot, and try to eradicate dandelions was and remains to her a horrific tragedy. What we see as a weed was and is certainly not a weed to her.

We may not think of mustard plants as weeds, but the disciples would have and anyone whose land was infested with them would also see them as weeds. They may give shelter to the birds of the air, but they had and have an annoying tendency to grow in crop land. At the same time, the seeds of the plant Jesus was probably referring to were edible. It may not be the plant that we want to grow, but it is not a plant without value or purpose – just not the one we desire or intended.

And yet, what does it mean that the kingdom is like a mustard seed? A plant that certainly could be cultivated but was not as valuable as grain and which could take up precious soil and water that would otherwise grow the more desired and sought after grain. A plant that keeps coming back again and again.

I do not know what the kingdom of God being like a mustard seed or even like a dandelion is for you – but for me – it is a sign of God's love and grace.

It is a sign that the kingdom of God cannot be stopped by us. It is a sign that God is beyond our control. It is a sign that our attempts to put God in a box will not work. It is a sign that God does not give up.

For if the kingdom of God is like the mustard seed or the dandelion, it means that the kingdom of God is like a single seed that can grow a single plant that in turn can produce many seeds and that in turn produce even more plants. For the love of God, the grace of Jesus Christ, the communion of the Holy Spirit are a lot like dandelions, plants that if we only look closer and allow our perceptions to be changed, are not weeds at all – but a beautiful creation of God that offers food and healing free for the taking wherever the wind may blow them.

Warmly in Christ, Pastor Evan





https://www.facebook.com/North-Presbyterian-Church







If you would like to donate Chancel flowers (suggested donation of \$42), please contact Lori Lee at 607-739-3176. Available Sundays for July and August 2024 are: July 21 and August 4 & 25. Please take the flowers home to enjoy after the service.

If you are not in the sanctuary on your chosen date, we will be in touch with you to make a plan.



JulyWorship Volunteers

Tech Booth

Tech Booth		Counters	
July 7	Steve Allison	July 7	Allie Sevey, Wendy Swatling
July 14	Steve Allison	July 14	Annette Stevens, Jim Mosher
July 21	Steve Allison	July 21	Phil Carpentier, Jeff Richards
July 28	Bill Furnas	July 28	Cindy & Kurt Kalweit
Ushers		Wee Worship	
July 7	Tim & Cheryl Allison	July 7	Liz Wilson, Wally Ferriter
July 14	Nancy Isaacs, Kate Hansen	July 14	Ann Motley, Payton Hoskins-Thomas
July 21	Kurt & Cindy Kalweit	July 21	Ann Motley, Becky Kowulich
July 28	Pat & Jeff Richards	July 28	Allie & Scott Sevey
Communion		Worship Assistant	
July 7	Tim Allison, Lori Lee, Vicki Balon	July 7	TBD
	Suzie Hoskins, Sylvia Tuller	July 14	Linda Palmer
		July 21	Steve Allison
July 21	Wendy Swatling, Jim Mosher, Nancy Isaacs	July 28	TBD
	Lori Lee, Vicki Balon		
Greeters		Coffee Hour	
July 7	Joan Barneski, Alice Kain	July 7	Bobbi Furnas, Pat Richards
July 14	Scott & Allie Sevey	July 14	Ann Motley, Melanie Fitzpatrick
July 21	Janice Williams	July 21	Karen Wilson, Liz Wilson
July 28	Linda Palmer	July 28	Cheryl Allison, Barb Duryea

ogether we make a

family



July 7: Candice & James Wainwright

July 14: Sheila Washburn Alexis, Katie, Khloe, Kyle

> July 21: Janice Williams

July 28: Ed & Karen Wilson Brenna, Ethan

Jesus tells us to pray without ceasing for the good of God's people.

Our Homebound Friends

July 7: Wilma Padgett 3015 Lake St, Elmira Heights, NY 14903

July 14: Margery Schornsteimer 758 Silver Pine Dr. St. Augusine, FL 32092

July 21: Ann Beattie 4747 Glengarry Rd. Clarence, NY 14031

. .

July 28: Rita Dery 550 Wilmette Ave. #217 Ormond Beach, FL 32174 Please send a card to our Homebound Friends





We would like to remind everyone that they are welcome to attend Session Meetings.

If you are interested in attending one, please contact the church office.



Weekly Prayer Chain Email

Did you know that you can pray or be prayed for? You are invited to let the church office know how you would like to be involved. We are stronger together.



July

Can't wait for VBS!

Hi Everyone,

While Deb is focusing on getting better, we'll do our best to make sure you have info from Children and Youth Ministry.

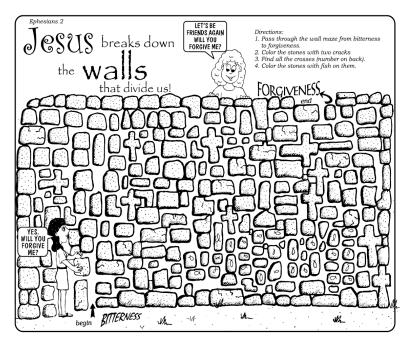
If any of you have not yet signed up for VBS, there's still time! You can register on the North Pres website (northpres.church) or call the church office (607-734-2977) for a registration form.

Liz and Allie and our crew from North Pres, and Barb and Kathy and the crew from First Pres, Elmira have been working hard to get everything ready for another great VBS week! The theme this year is "SCUBA, diving into friendship with God". There will be games, activities, Bible lessons, and dinners all centered around this theme.

Can't wait to see you all there!

September will be here before we know it! We're still looking for some volunteers to help with Sunday school. If you're interested, please talk to Allie Sevey or Liz Wilson.

Gretchen





FRIENDLY () REMINDER

- If you would like to be prayed for or know someone who would like to be prayed for, please contact the church office. A prayer request will be sent to our prayer partners. If you would like someone to pray with you, a request can be sent to one of our prayer partners or Pastor Evan and someone will connect with you.
- Remember to check our bulletin board for NPC and Community Announcements/Information.
- Lost something? Be sure to check the lost-and-found bin in the church office.



Parking Lot Worship:

- Please use only the North Entrance (towards Roe Ave.)
- Please tune your radio to 1700AM.
- Please exit through the South Entrance (towards the college).





Zoom Worship

• Zoom service link will be emailed each week for those who would like to participate via Zoom.

Sanctuary Worship: Please join us for Worship on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am.

Check out our facebook page or church website for special services throughout the year, including Monthly Wednesday evening services and weekly Lent and Advent services.

		Committee/Coordinator	Email Address
		Audit	audit@northpres.church
		Buildings & Grounds	campus@northpres.church
FOOD		Building Use	building_use@northpres.church
PANTRY		Clerk of Session	session@northpres.church
44	10	Deacons	deacons@northpres.church
		Education	education@northpres.church
	5	Fellowship	fellowship@northpres.church
	H	Finance	finance@northpres.church
	1	Mission & Outreach	misson_outreach@northpres.church
		Nominating	nominating@northpres.church
SHOPPING LIST		Staff Relations	staff_relations@northpres.church
July Food Pantry		Tech & Communications	tech_com@northpres.church
Shopping List:		Treasurer	Financial_sec@northpres.church
The following items are needed this month for the Food Pantry:		Worship & Music	worship@northpres.church
Cereal Canned Pasta		Staff	Email Address
Tuna Fish		Church Administrator	office@northpres.church
In addition, if your dentist gives		Director of Youth Ministries	youth@northpres.church
you toothbrushes, floss, or		Music Director	music@northpres.church
toothpaste, and you don't need it, the pantry does! Monetary	X	Organist	organist@northpres.church
donations are also welcome.	$ \land $	Pastor	pastor@northpres.church
	/		

Meet the Staff

Pastor Evan Hansen Open Door Off	Pastor ice Hours: T & W 1:30-4pm
Paul Holland	Music Director
Sharon Reynolds	Organist
Randy Cornell	Pianist
Deb Stamp	Director of Children & Youth Ministry
Gretchen Duffy	Office Administrator

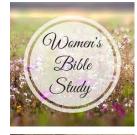
SPECIAL OFFERINGS We are the Church, **Together**

Special Offering for July: Building Fund



Important Reminders:

- The church office needs your contact information. Please let us know if anything has changed.
- If you need to contact the church office for any reason, please feel free to email office@northpres.church or call (607) 734-2977 Tues-Fri 9 am to 3:30 pm.



Women's Bible Study will resume in September. For more information, please contact Suzie Hoskins or the church office.



Men's Bible Study will resume in September. If you would like more info, please contact Kurt Kalweit, Steve Allison or the church office.



Wednesday Noon Bible Study will resume in September. If you would like more information or study materials, please contact Bobbi Furnas or the church office.







There will be no Church Work Day or Saturday Breakfast in July.





There will be no Wednesday Fellowship Dinner in July.

Our next Fellowship Event will be Worship and Picnic in the Park on Sunday, August 18. Worship will be at 10:30 am with the picnic directly following. Details will be coming soon!







Scores of 1-69	Insatisfactorio	Failing
Scores of 70-80	Satisfactorio	Good
Scores of 81-89	Muy Satisfactorio	Very Good
Scores of 91-100	Avanzado	Excellent
NAC		Did not showed assignments

Promedio Anual por Área

Annual average by area

AC	Accumulative Homework
EX	Exam Grade
TP	Total Partial Grade

For 7th. – 9th grade students

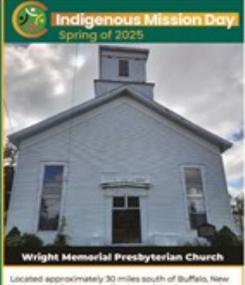
Rendimiento academico	Academic perfor-		
	mance		
Educacion Artistica	Art		
Español	Spanish		
Ingles	English		
Matematicas	Math		
Ciencias Naturales	Natural Science		
Educacion Civica	Civic Education		
Estudios Sociales	Social Studies		
Educacion Fisica y Deportes	Gym		
Tecnologia	Computer and Crafts		
Inasistencias	Missing days		



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Synod-Wide Special Offering



Located approximately 30 miles south of Buffalo, New York on the Cattaraugus Territory of the Seneca Nation of Indians, our congregation is very small. Despise our site, we regularly engage in reaching out to our community through selling treakfast and pies the first Saturday of each month (except 3uly and August, when it is too hot to be cooking in the kitchen) as well as holding sewing classes every Tuesday right. Women from the church and community are encouraged to work on their projects at their own pace, and an instructor is there to help. If needed.

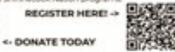


CONATE TODAY





Flowers/Hower Moon Time.) Shinnecock Labor Day Weekend Powyow is an end of summer gathering of Native People from across the hemisphere which continues to also benefit the Shinnecock Peebyterian Church and Shinnecock Nation programs.



od-Wide Special Offering

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Indigenous Mission Day Saturday, September 28, 2024

Brook Presbyterian Church

Located in Hilburn, NY, Brooke is a historical church

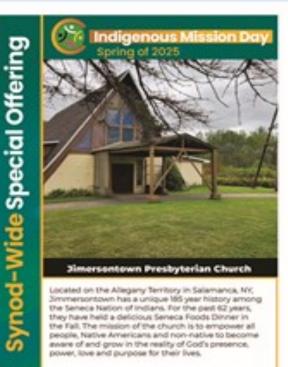
Church NISN3. The families of Brook, along with a

with a rich Native American/Mrican American Natory It is the original Ramapough Munsee Lenape Nation

young Thurgood Marshall, led the Fight that ultimately desegregated the Hillburn School in 1943. Il years

before Thurgood Marshall's landmark case, thown vs. The Board of Education. Through depression and

REGISTER HERE! -> + DONATE TODAY





Grief Support

Grief Share SUPPORT GROUP

Available Online and In-person: Ovid Federated Church 7137 N. Main St, Ovid, NY Tuesdays 5:30-7:30pm Beginning April 9th, 2024

A GriefShare support group is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. At this I3-week group, you'll receive valuable guidance and tips, leading you to relief, comfort, and peace of mind.

> Contact Judy Mellgard, Facilitator 814-762-6928





New Meeting Time

Thursdays @6:30pm

First Presbyterian Church of Elmira 1054 W. Clinton Street Elmira, NY 14905



From the Presbytery

Columbia Theological Seminary's Wonder of Worship program offering \$1,000 grants to congregations

The 'Quick Wins' grants will help faith communities that are working to nurture children in their worship and prayer lives

by Columbia Theological Seminary | Special to Presbyterian News Service

DECATUR, Georgia — The Wonder of

Worship program at Columbia Theological Seminary is offering a second round of grants of \$1,000 to congregations nationally looking to enhance the engagement of children in their corporate workspaces.

Wonder of Worship is funded through Lilly Endowment's Nurturing Children Through Worship and Prayer Initiative. The aim of the national initiative is to support faith-based



Photo by Robert Collins via Unsplash

organizations as they help children grow in faith and deepen their relationships with God.

The \$1,000 "Quick Wins" grants are available to congregations in any denomination through the Lilly Endowment and are part of an allotment to Columbia to provide for the nurturing of children in their worship and prayer lives.



Dr. Kathy L. Dawson

"Churches in the first round of these grants have proposed many creative ways of using this money, from building worship training resources to hiring consultants to aid in writing more child-friendly liturgy," said Dr. Kathy L. Dawson, project director for the Wonder of Worship grant program. "Some are renovating cry rooms to enhance family participation in the service and others are developing programs for child leadership of worship. I've been amazed by the creativity in our partner churches so far and look forward to what this second round of Quick Wins grants will bring."

In this round, congregations looking to apply should conduct an inventory on what they are already doing in order to help ascertain where the greatest need is for the grant money. Congregations need to identify three to five areas in which they may make simple changes that can be done in the next year to engage children more fully in worship. The audit is available **here**.

After the audit, congregations need to fill out a short registration form, including an itemized budget, to explain how the funds will be spent. That application is available here. The application deadline is July 15.







Communication & Technology Committee Meeting July 9 at 10:00 am



Finance Committee Meeting July 10 at 9:30 am

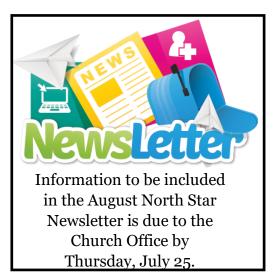






Christian Ed Comm Mtg July 9 at 5:30 pm. Staff Relations Meeting July 2 at 9:00 am











SESSION MEETING June 23, 2024 NORTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Willits Hall

Elders present: Steve Allison, Tim Allison, Nancy Isaacs, Kurt Kalweit, Lori Lee, Annie LeFevre, Jim Mosher, Allison Sevey, Wendy Swatling, Liz Wilson

Elders excused: Linda Plamer

Moderator: Rev. Evan Hansen Clerk: Cindy Kalweit Treasurer: Patricia Richards

The Clerk determined that a quorum was present.

Rev. Hansen called the meeting to order, and the meeting was opened with devotions and prayer

led by Pastor Hansen

The minutes of the May 5, 2024 Stated Session meeting were reviewed and approved as submitted.

Session reviewed the Financial Statements including the Profit and Loss Budget Performance for May 2024 and the Account Activity Summary for the Endowment Fund. The Endowment Fund posted another strong month in May. Pentecost donations totaled \$1,195. Of that amount, \$477.20 (40%) is maintained by NPC for support of local youth programs. The Treasurer's report was received, with thanks, by the Session.

Session acted upon the following items:

On the recommendation of the Nominating Committee Session approved the re-instatement of the Youth Elder position.

Calling for a Congregational Meeting to be held on Sunday, August 4th to approve David Hansen as the Youth Elder (Pastor Hansen abstained). Ordination will be held on August 11th.

Pastor Hansen led a discussion on Chapters 6 & 7 of "Loving the Church You Lead."

The meeting adjourned in prayer at 8:00 p.m. Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Kalweit

Clerk of Session

		J		Y		X
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 5:30 pm -TOPS 10:00 am -Food Pantry	2 8:45 am -Yoga 9:00 am - Staff Relations Mtg 1:15 pm - Staff Mtg 1:30 pm - Pastor's Office Hours 3:00 pm - Kindermusik	3 Bulletin Info Due 10:00 am -Food Pantry 1:30-4:00 pm -Pastor's Office Hours 2:00 pm - Blood Drive	4 Independence Day Offices Closed	5 10:00 am -Food Pantry 5:15 pm -AA	6 12:00 pm - Willits in use for baby shower
7 9:30 am - Worrship Service combined with First Pres Hhds. 9:30 am - Communion 10:30 am - Coffee Hour	8 10:00 am -Food Pantry 5:30 pm -TOPS	9 8:45 am -Yoga 10:00 am - Comm & Tech Mtg 1:15 pm - Staff Mtg 1:30 pm - Staff Mtg 1:30 pm - Pastor's Office Hours 3:00 pm - Kindermusik 4:30 pm - CE Mtg 7:00 pm - B & G Mtg	10 Bulletin Info Due 9:30 am - Finance Mtg 10:00 am -Food Pantry 1:30-4:00 pm -Pastor's Office Hours	11 8:45 am -Yoga 10:00 am -Kindermusik 5:15 pm - Kindermusik	12 10:00 am -Food Pantry 5:15 pm -AA	13
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21 9:30 am -Worship Service combined with First Pres Elm, First Pres Hhds, First Pres Big Flats 9:30 am - Communion 10:30am-Coffee Hour	22 Parson's to work on organ 10:00 am -Food Pantry 5:30 pm -TOPS	23 8:45 am -Yoga 1:15 pm -Staff Mtg 1:30 pm -Pastor's Office Hours 3:00 pm - Kindermusik	24 Bulletin Info Due Newletter Info Due 10:00 am -Food Pantry 1:30-4:00 pm -Pastor's Office Hours	25 8:45 am -Yoga 10:00 am - Kindermusik 5:15 pm - Kindermusik	26 10:00 am -Food Pantry 5:15 pm - AA	27
28 9:30 am -Worship Service 10:30am-Coffee Hour	29 10:00 am -Food Pantry 5:30 pm -TOPS	30 8:45 am -Yoga 1:15 pm - Staff Mtg 3:00 pm - Kindermusik	31 Bulletin Info Due 10:00 am -Food Pantry 1:30-4:00 pm -Pastor's Office Hours			

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Philippians 4:13

Alison Langridge