

NORTH STAR

September 2024 - Making Disciples...
Making a Difference.

Rally Sunday

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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September, 2024
A Letter from Pastor Hansen

According to the Federal Trade Commission, in 2023, the American people lost about ten billion dollars due to fraud and scams. These are just the reported losses. The actual number is probably higher. You might be surprised that the age group most likely to get scammed are the 20–29-year-olds; however, when scammed, those who are 70 years old and older lose the most money.

Most of us carry a cellphone around with us. This makes us much more accessible to people trying to scam us than ever before. As technology gets more and more advanced, we are easier and easier to reach and susceptible to being defrauded. It is also good to remember that while the methods and scope of the scams may be new, the practice of trying to take other people's money and resources by deception and fraud is nothing new.

In 2023, the most effective scam was the “imposter scam.” The person seeking to defraud you pretends to be your bank, the government, your credit card company, a relative, and even your pastor. For example, I have had someone call me and tell me that they were from a government agency and that they had a package addressed to me containing drugs and cash. If this ever happens to you, please hang up.

Another popular one I have seen lately is a text message supposedly from the US Postal Service. It says something like “we have your package, and it is incorrectly addressed, please contact us” and has a link in the message. Please do not open the link or respond.

More than one person in our congregation has received text messages from people claiming to be me asking that they purchase digital Apple iTunes gift cards or Amazon gift cards and to text the digital gift cards back to them. Please know that I would never ask you to purchase digital gift cards for me. If I need digital gift cards, I am more than able to purchase them myself. Please do not respond to the text. If they keep texting you, block the number.

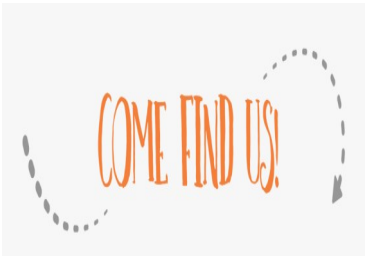
We all get phone calls from numbers we do not know. If you do not know the number, you probably should send it to voicemail or let the answering machine take it. If the person needs to talk to you, they will leave a message, and you get to decide whether you want to talk to them or not.

Another popular scam in 2023 involved people trying to convince people to invest their money with them by promising them high returns on their investments. This is what Bernie Madoff did and he defrauded thousands of people of billions of dollars. People lost and continue to lose their life savings to these types of scams.

If you believe that you are the victim of a scam or fraud, please report it. It may seem like a waste of time or too embarrassing to report it, but it helps law enforcement and other government agencies in their attempts to stop these practices. If you are the victim of a scam or fraud, it is also useful to tell your story and experience to others. If they know what happened to you or you know what happened to them, you and they will be less susceptible in the future.

Warmly in Christ,

Pastor Evan



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



<https://www.northpres.church/>



Chancel Flower Orders

If you would like to donate Chancel flowers (suggested donation of \$42), please contact Lori Lee at 607-739-3176.

Available Sundays for September and October 2024 are: September 15 & 22 and October 13 & 27.

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.



September Worship Volunteers

Tech Booth

September 1 Bill Furnas
September 8 Steve Allison
September 15 Steve Allison
September 22 Bill Furnas
September 29 Bill Furnas

Ushers

September 1 Nancy Isaacs, Kate Hansen
September 8 Kurt & Cindy Kalweit
September 15 Pat & Jeff Richards
September 22 Janice Williams, Phil Carpentier
September 29 Wendy Swatling, Barb Duryea

Communion

September 1 Tim Allison, Suzie Hoskins, Wendy Swatling
Nancy Isaacs, Linda Palmer
September 15 Jim Mosher, Tim Allison, Nancy Isaacs,
Lori Lee, Vicki Balon

Greeters

September 1 Janice Williams
September 8 Linda Palmer
September 15 Gerry Harding
September 22 Tim Allison

Counters

September 1 Cindy & Kurt Kalweit
September 8 Dolores Cummings, Janice Williams
September 15 Allie Sevey, Wendy Swatling
September 22 Annette Stevens, Jim Mosher
September 29 Phil Carpentier, Jeff Richards

Wee Worship

September 1 Allie & Scott Sevey
September 8 Karen Wilson, Barb Duryea
September 15 Liz Wilson, Wally Ferriter
September 22 Ann Motley, Payton Hoskins-Thomas
September 29 Ann Motley, Becky Kowulich

Worship Assistant

September 1 Suzie Hoskins
September 8 Kurt Kalweit
September 15 Wendy Swatling
September 22 Jim Mosher
September 29 Linda Palmer

Coffee Hour

September 1 Karen Wilson, Liz Wilson
September 8 Cindy Kalweit, Annette Stevens
September 15 Barb Duryea, Cheryl Allison
September 22 Bobbi Furnas, Pat Richards

Together we make a Family



Our
Love &
Prayers
Go Out
To...

September 1:
Vicki Balon

September 8:
Gretchen Joan Barneski

September 15:
Debi Batrowny

September 22:
George & Sandra Batrony
Molly, Brooke

September 29:
Corey & Jason Battersby
Mackenzie, Madeline, Conor

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

Our Homebound Friends

September 1:
Melanie Fitzpatrick
308 W. First St.
Elmira, NY 14901

September 8:
Margaret Densberger
Bethany Manor
Unit 3, Room 208
3005 Watkins Rd.
Horseheads, NY 14845

September 15:
Cynthia Klungle
111 Schuyler St.
Montour Falls, NY 14865

September 22:
Marilyn Edwards
520 Harcourt Dr.
Elmira, NY 14904

September 29:
Karen & Chris Paul
123 Ridge Rd.
Horseheads, NY 14845

*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.



September

It's time for Rally Sunday!

Hi Everyone,

Fall is on its way and with it will come a return to all of our regular activities. The kids will go back to school and Rally Sunday will kick off a new year of Sunday School. Liz and Allie are planning a backpack blessing for Rally Sunday, so be sure to bring your backpacks to church. They are also planning a scavenger hunt for the Sunday school kids with a special treat at the end. How fun! Sunday school classes will begin on September 15.

As always, we love to have volunteers. So, if any of you would like to help out with Sunday school or Youth Group, please contact Liz Wilson, Allie Sevey or the church office. We're still looking for Sunday school teachers for the 3rd – 6th grade class.

There will be a Youth movie event on Sunday, September 29. Please see the attached flyer for details.

Have a great September!

Gretchen



Join US!

When: Sunday, September 29th

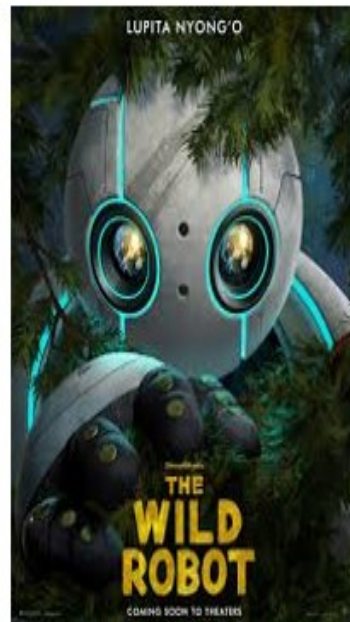
Where: Arnot Mall Regal Cinemas

Who: North Pres. & First Pres.

Time: Still being determined

More Information:

- If you are not able to purchase your child's ticket, please see Allie Sevey or Liz Wilson so we can help.
- Movie snacks are an additional cost and will not be covered.
- Pizza and drinks will be provided after the movie at the Arnot Mall Food Court.



WORSHIP INFORMATION

- 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).



Sanctuary Worship:

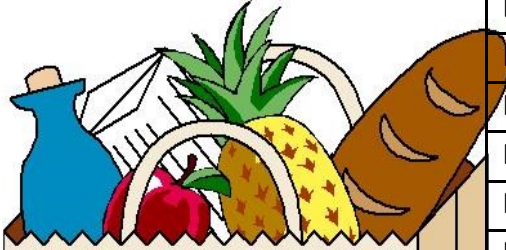
**Please join us for Worship
on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am.**

**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.**

Welcome
TO OUR ONLINE WORSHIP

Zoom Worship

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



SHOPPING LIST

September Food Pantry

Shopping List:

The following items are needed this month for the Food Pantry:

Instant Mashed Potatoes

Stuffing Mix

Green Beans

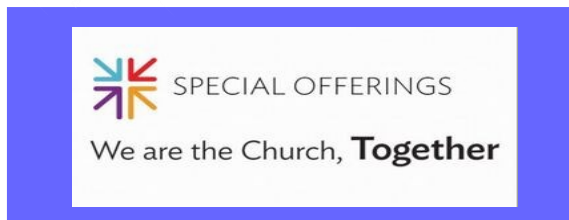
In addition, if your dentist gives you toothbrushes, floss, or toothpaste, and you don't need it, the pantry does! Monetary donations are also welcome.

Committee/Coordinator	Email Address
Audit	audit@northpres.church
Buildings & Grounds	campus@northpres.church
Building Use	building_use@northpres.church
Clerk of Session	session@northpres.church
Deacons	deacons@northpres.church
Education	education@northpres.church
Fellowship	fellowship@northpres.church
Finance	finance@northpres.church
Mission & Outreach	mission_outreach@northpres.church
Nominating	nominating@northpres.church
Staff Relations	staff_relations@northpres.church
Tech & Communications	tech_com@northpres.church
Treasurer	Financial_sec@northpres.church
Worship & Music	worship@northpres.church

Staff	Email Address
Church Administrator	office@northpres.church
Director of Youth Ministries	youth@northpres.church
Music Director	music@northpres.church
Organist	organist@northpres.church
Pastor	pastor@northpres.church

CALLING ALL GARDENERS!

Did you have a great crop this year? The food pantry would love to hand out any of your extra produce.



Special Offering for September:
Organ/Piano/Bells Fund

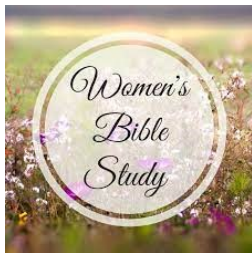
Meet the Staff

Pastor Evan Hansen	Pastor
Open Door Office 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

Reminder

Important Reminders:

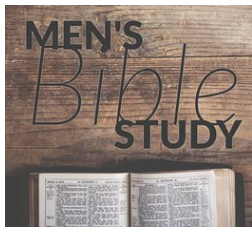
- The church office needs your contact information. Please let us know if anything has changed.
- If you need to contact the church office for any reason, please feel free to email office@northpres.church or call (607) 734-2977 Tues-Fri 9 am to 3:30 pm.



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



Wednesday Noon Bible Study
will resume on September 11. They will study the Book of Acts 13-28. If you would like more information or study materials, please contact Bobbi Furnas 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.



Sunday School for all ages will resume on Rally Day, September 8, at 11:00 am.



Praise Band rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm.

The Good News Singers' practices are on Sundays at 10:45 am.



Music rehearsals will resume on **September 4.**

Bell Choir rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 6:15

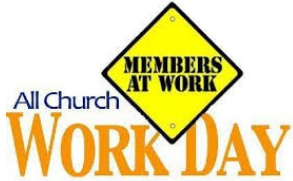


Chancel Choir rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 7:30 pm.





Fellowship



There will be a Church Work Day on Saturday, September 21 at 9:00 am.

There will be a Saturday breakfast on September 21 at 8:00 am, sponsored by the ACTS group.



There will be a Fellowship Dinner on Wednesday, September 4 at 5:30 pm. Dinner will include:

- *Baked Chicken
- *Mashed Potatoes
- *Tossed Salad
- *Apple Crumble
- *Coffe/Lemonade

A sign-up sheet is on the Welcome Desk. Please sign up to reserve your spot by noon on September 3.



Second Place East, Inc.



**September donation
Request:**

Laundry Soap



The Matsiko Children's Choir is returning to North Pres!

We will once again host the Matsiko Children's Choir, September 23 thru September 30. More details coming soon.



**with special guest
Rev. Dr. Marielis Barreto-Hernández**



This World Communion Sunday join us as Rev. Dr. Marielis Barreto-Hernández, PCUSA's International Peacemaker from Puerto Rico, leads us in worship.

**First Presbyterian Church of Elmira
Sunday, October 6 - 10:30 a.m.**

Light luncheon to follow. Reservations required by October 1. Please RSVP to office@firstpreselmira.org or 607-734-1614.



First Presbyterian Church
Elmira

1054 West Clinton Street, Elmira NY 14905
607-734-1614 - firstpreselmira.org



Grief Support

GriefShare®

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 13-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



GriefCare
You are not alone

New Meeting Time

Thursdays @6:30pm

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

Powerful Tools FOR Caregivers

Sponsored by
Chemung County Department of Aging and Long Term Care

Caregiving can be a challenge, but it's easier when you're prepared.



This six-week class series gives you the confidence and support to better care for your loved one – and yourself.

**The Chemung County
Department of Aging and
Long Term Care
Presents:**

***Powerful Tools for
Caregivers* classes**

Fridays In-person

September 20
September 27
October 4
October 11
October 18
October 24
2024

**2:30pm-4:00pm
425 Pennsylvania Ave
Room 122
Elmira, NY**

**The training is free however
pre-registration is required.
Seats are limited. Please call
(607) 737-5520
No later than
September 18, 2024**

Are you a caregiver?

Caregiving takes on many forms. You may help a relative or friend with:

- Financial concerns
- Legal or insurance issues
- Transportation
- Housekeeping
- Grocery shopping
- Personal care
- Medications
- Emotional support
- Doctor appointments
- Social activities
- Living arrangements

Whether you provide care for a spouse, partner, parent or friend either at home or in a care facility; whether down the block or miles away, yours is an important role. This course is for caregivers like you!

The class will give you tools to help:

- Reduce Stress
- Improve Self Confidence
- Manage time, set goals, and solve problems
- Communicate in challenging situations
- Make tough decisions
- Locate helpful resources



When you take care of yourself, everyone benefits.

What is Powerful Tools for Caregivers?

Powerful Tools for Caregivers is a class series that supports caregivers in taking care of yourself while caring for someone else. By taking care of your own health and well-being, you become a better caregiver.

Six classes held once a week are led by experienced class leaders.

Class participants are given *The Caregiver Helpbook* to accompany the class and provide additional caregiver resources.



This program is funded by the Chemung County Department of Mental Hygiene & Department of Aging and Long Term Care, the New York State Office for the Aging, and the Older Americans Act.

Powerful Tools
FOR Caregivers

www.powerfultoolsforcaregivers.org

Powerful Tools for Caregivers is owned and managed by Iowa State University of Science and Technology.



BORDER BUDDIES MINISTRIES

*Bringing the heart of Christ to
the heart of Honduras.*

Scores of 1-69	Failing	Parciales = I, II, III, IV	Partial = I, II, III, IV
Scores of 70-80	Good	Promedio Anual por Área	Annual average by area
Scores of 81-89	Very Good	Puntualidad	Punctuality
Scores of 91-100	Excellent	Espiritu de Trabajo	Work Spirit
		Orden y Presentacion	Order and Presentation
		Sociabilidades	Sociabilities
		Moralidad	Moralities

ND	Not Assigned
S	Excellent
MB	Very Good
B	Good

1	Needs to improve or not satisfactory
2	Good
3	Very Good
4	Excellent

For 1st – 6th. grade students

Rendimiento academico	Academic performance
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

Dear Brothers and Sisters of the Faith,

Attached is the Second report card for the II Partials for 2024 school year.

If there is a zero for grade on a subject it will be graded on the third partial.

Attached is the translation on how to read your sponsored child/children report card.

Thank you for helping us in giving these children an opportunity to move forward to another school year.

Blessings,
Glenda and Michael Miller

PARCIALES	PERSONALIDAD						APROVECHAMIENTO POR ÁREAS									
	Puntualidad	Espíritu de Trabajo	Orden y Presentación	Sociabilidad	Moralidad		COMUNICACIÓN			Matemáticas	Ciencias Sociales	Educación Cívica	Ciencias Naturales	Educación Física y Deportes	Tecnología	Inasistencias
I	5	5	5	5	5		97	80	100	100	100	100	99	100		0
II	5	5	5	MB	MB		96	82		88	95	98	98	100		2
III																
IV																
Promedio anual Por Área																

Índice Académico: _____



[Handwritten Signature]
Firma del Docente


Firma del Director (a)





First Presbyterian of Big Flats
95 Main St., Big Flats, NY
Friday, October 4, 2024
7:00 PM | Freewill offering

Thomas Keesecker will share music from his bestselling piano collections in a 75-minute concert. Keesecker, a composer and church musician as well as performer, is known around the country for his sensitive, delightful, and meditative piano arrangements of hymns. At this concert, we'll be able to sing some of them together, as well as listen to his interpretations. The hymns will be interspersed with poetry by Mary Oliver and Wendell Berry, two of the most beloved and profound poets of the 20th and 21st centuries. CDs of his music will be available for purchase after the concert.

Tom retired in 2019 after serving as a church musician for over 40 years in Lutheran and Roman Catholic parishes in Virginia, Montana, and Maryland. His sacred music is published by MorningStar, Augsburg Fortress, Choristers Guild, Concordia, and GIA. He studied at the Berklee College of Music in Boston and the Catholic University School of Music in Washington, D.C. He mixes classical technique, jazz improvisation, Celtic and folk music influences in his arrangements. His music may be listened to on Amazon Music and YouTube.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

September in the life of North Presbyterian –

World Day of Prayer - On September 1st, we unite with Presbyterians around the world in praising God and giving thanks for His beautiful gift of creation!

September 1st also marks the beginning of “A Season of Peace” that continues through World Communion Sunday on October 6th. We will join the First Presbyterian Church of Elmira on that day (October 6th) for worship and celebration highlighted by a visit from an International Peacemaker! The church is located at 1054 West Clinton Street, and the worship service begins at 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, September 4th – the Fellowship dinner and evening worship service return! Dinner begins at 5:30 (thank you Fellowship team!) and the worship service at 7:00 with choir rehearsals in between. Hint – if you play handbells, you usually get to go to the head of the line. Contact the church office to make your dinner reservation (but do not let the lack of one keep you from attending, there will be plenty of food). If your children go back to school on the fourth, pop in for a quick dinner you do not have to cook, and then get the kids home or stop at the store for those last-minute supplies. There is no commitment to stay for the worship service, and vice versa. These evening worship services are my personal favorites...shorter in time (half hour) but full of the Holy Spirit. A peaceful way to end a busy day.

RALLY DAY!! – September 8th brings fun and fellowship for ALL of God’s children. I have heard rumors of a scavenger hunt and more. Jump in and make memories!

Adult gatherings begin in September, so watch the bulletin, North Star, and social media for the details. There is a Bible study geared towards men (afternoon meeting time), one towards women (evening), but if a particular time works better for you (maybe you do not drive at night), then choose the small group that meets your needs. The Wednesday Noon Bible study is open to everyone in the community, which contributes to the conversation as we learn about other faith groups in the area. The group meets for just one hour in the Brisbane Room, and the study guides used are brief but thought-provoking. Please contact Bobbi Furnas if you would like the fall study guide on the Book of Acts.

September also marks the return of the music program (choirs, praise band, handbells). Please contact Paul Holland (adults) or Suzie Hoskins (children) to share your gift and glorify God!

Peace and love,

Linda Palmer

Communications & Technology Chair



Thank You, farewell

Dear friends and colleagues of the Presbytery of Geneva,

For the past five and a half years, it has been my honor to serve and support you as you work diligently to be the hands and feet of Christ in the Finger Lakes. Together, we have weathered a global pandemic, the sale of an office building and move to remote operations, and working long-distance over screens and cell phones. I've seen God bless the good ministry you are doing in your congregations and organizations, and I am deeply thankful.

This month, I will be leaving my role as Administrative Support Services to begin a residency program as a hospital chaplain. It is an exciting new ministry opportunity, though it is indeed bittersweet, as it means having to say goodbye to all of you.

Thank you for allowing me to serve in this Presbytery, and please know that you and yours will remain in my heart, thoughts, and prayers.

Wishing you all God's best,

Elena Delhagen



Once again, the Food Pantry is planning to hand out Thanksgiving turkeys (donated through the Food Bank) to as many of our customers as possible. And again, we want folks to have the full holiday meal -- mashed potatoes, gravy, stuffing, yams, green beans and cranberry sauce.

As you shop over the next few months, please look for these items and, if possible, grab a few to donate to our Thanksgiving Dinner Bags.

As always, thank you for your generosity to the hungry living in our community.

Pat



SEPTEMBER Events

September 2

LABOR DAY

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HARD WORK

Matsiko Children's Choir
 Concert Friday, September 27
 at 7:00 pm at NPC

ACTS Group
SATURDAY BREAKFAST
 Sept. 21 at 8:00 am

Communications & Technology
 Committee Meeting
 September 10 at 10:00 am

Finance Committee Meeting
 September 11 at 9:30 am

September 4
Wednesday Night
SERVICE
We look forward to seeing you there!
7:00 pm

Buildings & Grounds
 Comm Mtg
 September 10
 at 7:00 pm

THE THURSDAY MORNING
MUSICALES
 OF ELMIRA, NEW YORK
 September 19
 9:30 am

Staff Relations Meeting
 September 3
 at 9:00 am

NewsLetter

Information to be included
 in the October North Star
 Newsletter is due to the
 Church Office by
 Monday, September 24.

Youth Group Movie
 September 29
THE WILD ROBOT

**Community Meal at
 Grace Episcopal
 Church**

Wednesday, September 4
 Set up at 3:00 pm
 Dinner at 5:00 pm

SEPTEMBER Events

Rally Day
September 8
And Blessing of
the Backpacks

DEACONS
Leading through Serving.

Deacons' Meeting
September 19 at
11:00 am

Music & Worship
Committee Meeting
September 11 at
3:00 pm.

Our local chapter of
TOPS meets on
Mondays at 5:30 in
Willits Hall. If you're
interested, please call
the church office for
information.

Fellowship Dinner
FELLOWSHIP
-Meal-
September 4 at 5:30 pm

**CHRISTIAN
EDUCATION**

Christian Ed Comm Mtg
September 10
at 5:30 pm.

**American Red Cross
BLOOD DRIVE**

Give Blood • Give Life

There will be a Red Cross Blood
Drive on September 5, starting at
2 pm. If you're interested in
signing up to give blood, please
visit redcrossblood.org or call
1-800 RED CROSS.

Board of Session
will meet on
September 15 at
6:00 pm.

Yoga meets Tuesday and
Thursday mornings at 8:45 in
Willits Hall. If you're interested,
please contact the church office
for more information.

There will be a church
workday on Saturday,
September 21, at 8:00 am.

**MEMBERS
AT WORK**
All Church
WORK DAY

Kindermusik meets on Tuesdays
at 3 pm and Thursdays at
10 am and 5:15 pm.
For information on how your
child can participate, please
contact the church office.

NPC Board of Session

Summary of Session Meeting held at North Presbyterian Church on Sunday, August 18, 2024, at 6:00 P.M. in the Brisbane Room.

Elders present: Steven Allison, Timothy Allison, David Hansen, Nancy Isaacs, Lori Lee, Eva “Annie” LeFevre, Wendy Swatling, Linda Palmer, Allison Sevey

Members excused: Kurt Kalweit, James Mosher, Liz Wilson

Moderator: Rev. Evan Hansen

Clerk: Cynthia Kalweit (excused)

Treasurer: Patricia Richards

A quorum was determined, and the meeting was called to order by the Moderator. It opened with devotion and prayer. Linda Palmer was elected Clerk Pro tempore. The minutes of the June 23, 2024, Regular Session Meeting and the August 4, 2024 Special Session Meeting were approved.

Pastor Evan presented the Clerk’s Report noting the statistics for the month. He also reviewed the communications received. With regret, Session honored Heather Van Riper’s request to remove her from the active membership roll.

Mrs. Richards presented the Treasurer’s Report, reviewing the financial accounts and endowment activity. She noted the First Presbyterian Church of Elmira has submitted its share of expenses for the recent joint Vacation Bible School. The collaboration was successful, and the attendees and volunteers had a terrific experience. The Treasurer’s Report was received with thanks.

Pastor’s Report:

Leading adult Sunday School this fall - studying the Apostles Creed

Reported there was a bat in the Manse along with evidence of more bats; Session authorized a contract for mitigation (unknown cost)

Conducted two services (including Communion) at Woodbrook with Mrs. Richards assisting.

The next monthly service is August 27th

Vacation time was approved for the Pastor

Noon on September 29, 2024, through October 15, 2024

Tuesday, November 26, 2024, following the service at Woodbrook through December 3, 2024

December 25, 2024, through January 2, 2025.

Continuing visitations of “shut-ins”

Oral Committee Reports given (in addition to written reports received):

Worship and Music – Motion from the Committee was approved to move worship on World Communion Sunday, October 6, 2024, from North to the First Presbyterian Church of Elmira. A luncheon and forum with a Peacemaker are planned for the event that will also include other churches in the area. Session approved Joel Robinson to provide pulpit supply on October 13, 2024, and Rev. Cheryl Ann Elfond as the preacher and officiant for the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper on December 1, 2024.

Session had previously authorized invitations be sent to the First Presbyterian Churches of Big Flats, Elmira, and Horseheads for a Christmas Carol/Hymn Sing to be held at North in the afternoon on Sunday, December 22, 2024, followed by refreshments. Session affirmed that

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authorization establishing the starting time for the event at 2:00 p.m. The Worship Service of December 29th will consist of Readings and Carols.

Communications and Technology – The purchase of one high power enclosed relay for the Tech Worship Team was approved. Elmira College will hold an event on September 25th as they seek volunteer placements for their students.

Finance – Session, upon the direction of the Scholarship/Finance Committee, awarded the Meyer Scholarship to Brenna Wilson. Congratulations Brenna!

Buildings and Grounds – some accounts are overbudget as repairs were made and services were contracted for in response to an inspection by the City of Elmira Fire Code inspector along with expenditures previously approved by Session.

Congregational Life – The current quarter's allotment of Weis gift cards was depleted almost immediately as word circulated the church was "distributing gift card." The committee will be reviewing this program at its September 19th meeting.

Mission and Outreach – Wendy Swatling advised Session the steeple of the First Presbyterian Church of Rome, New York (founded in 1799), was destroyed by a recent tornado. She recalled the outpouring of donations to North when it experienced a fire, and suggested North should "pay it forward" and assist this sister church. Session agreed to donate \$5,000 from the \$9,200 tithe from the Whitaker Foundation bequest to the First Presbyterian Church of Rome, New York.

Christian Education – VBS was great. There will be a scavenger hunt for the children on Rally Day, September 8th. Teachers (and substitutes) are urgently needed for the Jr./Sr. High class and for the third-sixth grade class. Allison Sevey advised they will reuse last year's curriculum for the Pre-K to second grade class, and Mrs. Stamp has purchased curriculum for the third-sixth grade class. Session approved the curriculum recommended by the Pastor and authorized the purchase of the "Feasting on the Word" curriculum at a cost not to exceed \$80 for the fall Jr./Sr. High class.

Staff Relations – The committee will begin "tweaking" the sick time policy to reflect changes in New York State law.

Old Business – Membership rolls...In 2022, letters were sent to individuals compiled on a list by the Deacons to ascertain their interest in remaining members of North. Two requested their memberships be transferred. A couple more are attending North, partaking in the life of the church, and/or contributing to North Church. Another communication will be sent to the thirteen remaining individuals to determine if they want to remain as active members or not via an enclosed, stamped, response card. Session approved the transfer of the \$2,000 bequest from the Panosian Foundation to the North Presbyterian Food Pantry to be utilized for the purchase of a new refrigerator.

New Business – The Matsiko Children's Choir will return September 23-30, 2024. Help is needed - host family homes, distribute media packets, and conduct outreach for area presentations (nonreligious, educational focus).

The next Session meeting will be held on Sunday, September 15th at 6:00 p.m. in Willits Hall. The meeting adjourned with prayer at 7:35 p.m.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>9:30 am - Worship Service 9:30 am - Communion 10:30 am - Coffee Hour</p> 	<p>2 Labor Day</p> <p>No Food Pantry or TOPS</p>  <p>THANK YOU FOR YOUR HARD WORK</p>	<p>3</p> <p>8:45 am -Yoga 9:00 am - Staff Relations 1:15 pm - Staff Mtg 3:00 pm - Kindermusik</p>	<p>4 Bulletin Info Due</p> <p>10:00 am -Food Pantry 1:30-4:00 pm -Pastor's Office Hours 5:30 pm - Fellowship Dinner 6:00 pm - Bell Choir Practice 6:30 pm - Praise Band Practice 7:00 pm - Worship Service 7:30 pm - Chancel Choir Practice</p>	<p>5</p> <p>8:45 am - Yoga 10:00am - Kindermusik 2:00 pm - Blood Drive 5:15pm - Kindermusik</p> 	<p>6</p> <p>10:00 am -Food Pantry 5:15 pm -AA</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9:30 am - Worship Service 10:30 am - Coffee Hour 10:45 am - Good News Singers' Practice 11:00 am - Sunday School</p>	<p>9</p> <p>10:00 am -Food Pantry 5:30 pm -TOPS</p>	<p>10</p> <p>8:45 am -Yoga 10:00 am - Comm & Tech 1:15 pm - Staff Mtg 1:30 pm -Pastor's Office Hours 3:00 pm - Kindermusik 7:00 pm - B &G Mtg</p>	<p>11 Bulletin Info Due</p> <p>9:30 am - Finance Mtg 10:00 am -Food Pantry 1:30-4:00 pm -Pastor's Office Hours 3:00 pm - Worship & Music mtg 6:15 pm - Bell Choir Practice 7:00 pm - Praise Band Practice 7:30 pm - Chancel Choir Practice</p>	<p>12</p> <p>8:45 am -Yoga 10:00 am -Kindermusik 5:15 pm - Kindermusik</p>	<p>13</p> <p>10:00 am -Food Pantry 5:15 pm -AA</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9:30 am -Worship Service 9:30 am - Communion 10:30 am - Coffee Hour 10:45 am - Good News Singers' Practice 11:00 am - Sunday School 6:00 pm - Board of Session</p> 	<p>16</p> <p>10:00 am -Food Pantry 5:30 pm -TOPS</p>	<p>17</p> <p>8:45 am -Yoga 1:15 pm - Staff Mtg 1:30 pm -Pastor's Office Hours 3:00 pm - Kindermusik</p>	<p>18 Bulletin Info Due</p> <p>10:00 am -Food Pantry 1:30-4:00 pm -Pastor's Office Hours 6:15 pm - Bell Choir Practice 7:00 pm - Praise Band Practice 7:30 pm - Chancel Choir Practice</p>	<p>19</p> <p>8:45 am -Yoga 9:00 am - Thursday Morning Musicales 10:00 am -Kindermusik 11:00 am - Deacons' Mtg 5:15 pm - Kindermusik</p>	<p>20</p> <p>10:00 am -Food Pantry 5:15 pm -AA</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8:00 am - ACTS Breakfast/Work Day</p> 
<p>22</p> <p>9:30 am -Worship Service 10:30 am - Coffee Hour 10:45 am - Good News Singers' Practice 11:00 am - Sunday School</p>	<p>23</p> <p>10:00 am -Food Pantry 5:30 pm -TOPS</p>	<p>24 Newsletter Info Due</p> <p>8:45 am -Yoga 1:15 pm - Staff Mtg 1:30 pm -Pastor's Office Hours 3:00 pm - Kindermusik</p> 	<p>25 Bulletin Info Due</p> <p>10:00 am -Food Pantry 1:30-4:00 pm -Pastor's Office Hours 6:15 pm - Bell Choir Practice 7:00 pm - Praise Band Practice 7:30 pm - Chancel Choir Practice</p>	<p>26</p> <p>8:45 am -Yoga 10:00 am - Kindermusik 5:15 pm - Kindermusik</p>	<p>27</p> <p>10:00 am -Food Pantry 5:15 pm - AA 7:00 pm Matsiko Children's Choir concert</p> 	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9:30 am -Worship Service 10:30 am - Coffee Hour 10:45 am - Good News Singers' Practice 11:00 am - Sunday School Youth Group Movie</p>	<p>30</p> <p>10:00 am -Food Pantry 5:30 pm -TOPS</p>					