

# December 2022

## News From PPC

\*\* WE ARE SORRY FOR THE INCONVENIENCE—HOWEVER, IF YOU HAVE A KEY TO THE CHURCH—IT WILL NEED TO BE REPROGRAMMED —PLEASE SEE SAMANTHA DURING OFFICE HOURS \*\*

### News from the Interim: Seasons of Change

Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8:

*“For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born and a time to die; a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill and a time to heal; a time to break down and a time to build up; a time to weep and a time to laugh; a time to mourn and a time to dance; a time to throw away stones and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek and a time to lose; a time to keep and a time to throw away; a time to tear and a time to sew; a time to keep silent and a time to speak; a time to love and a time to hate; a time for war and a time for peace.”*

Dear All:

The latest edition of the Upper Room arrived the other day. When I opened to January 1, 2023, the word CHANGE met my eye. Using a theme from Ecclesiastes, “There is a time for everything,” Asher Broome, a middle schooler, encouraged the reader to embrace change as a gift from God. As Asher writes, change happens around us, within us, and sometimes right in front of us. Sometimes things change in strange ways, but in the end, the change reveals God’s work in the world. I think Asher is astute for such a young age.

As I was reading an online article called Seasons of Change, the writer said, “If we see change as a naturally occurring event - much like the change of seasons - then we can embrace change as a gift and an invitation to improve and enhance our lives.” (<https://www.seasonsofchange.com/seasons-of-change>)

Park Presbyterian Church has experienced a lot of change, not only in the past few years, but really, in the last 20 or so years. Much has happened here. Not all of it has been bad, but that is often what we choose to focus on rather than the good.

Let’s change that.



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2 John McCue

10 Stu Blodgett Jr.

15 Roger Brennessel

15 Sally Praino

20 Joe Burgess

20 Ken Rowe

23 Christine Stephens

25 Jonathan Taylor

29 Sandi Marcano

In the online article about Seasons of Change, the writer poses different seasons. Two of those seasons include:

*Winter Solstice: Catching Sparks Of Hope In The Darkness*

*Late Winter: A Time Of Exploring And Experimenting To Firm Up Your Vision For The Future.*

Interesting that as we prepare for the Winter Solstice, Park Church is also experiencing a time of Winter Solstice. Park is “catching sparks of hope in the darkness!” The writer suggests that during the season of Winter Solstice, the focus should be on:

- Turning things upside down to look at your life from new perspectives
- Drawing a line in the sand and saying "enough is enough"

Telling a new story about your past to find new doors to the future

This relates to where Park Presbyterian Church is right now. You are “drawing a line in the sand and saying, ‘enough is enough’”. You are seeking to move on, finding “new doors to the future.” We have the saying that when God closes a door God opens a window...why not God opens a new door? One way Park is finding new doors to the future is through Task Forces that will soon begin to meet to formulate some suggestions and proposals about how to move forward—in mission, Christian Education, and fellowship. Another way Park is finding new doors to the future is through Congregational Discussions. In January and February, I will start meeting after church with those who wish to work through some questions which will rate how important certain things are to you as a church congregation. The answers to these questions will not only help in writing up the congregational study, but eventually, they will guide the Pastor Nominating Committee as they create a Mission Information Form (MIF). Stay tuned for these dates. Session will be meeting on January 7<sup>th</sup> as part of a retreat, where they will brainstorm and formulate some ideas and suggestions moving forward—which will then be taken to the congregation. This is yet another way that Park is seeking to find “new doors to the future.” We need everyone’s ideas; this is an important time. Please plan on being part of some of these discussions. Get involved!

After this, as we prepare for the actual season of Spring, Park Presbyterian Church will begin the next season of change mentioned in the online article, that of, “Late Winter: A Time Of Exploring And Experimenting To Firm Up Your Vision For The Future.” This season of change involves:

- Following your insights wherever they take you
- Clearing out the old in your space, your to-do list, your relationships, and your mind

Experimenting and exploring to firm up your vision for the future

Park Presbyterian Church will be experimenting and exploring—including creating a purpose statement—your “Why” so to speak. Park will also be “clearing out the old” to make “room for the new.” This is an exciting time in the life of Park Presbyterian Church. God is doing great things. Won’t you join in and get involved? I, for one, can’t wait to see what God has planned for you!



In Christ,  
Susan :-)

## Our Community



### Community Christmas Dinner:

Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM at the Frist United Methodist Church, 301 South Main St., Newark, NY.

Anyone wishing to help prepare the meal or help with cleanup, please contact Karen Vanderbrook at 315-359-7854, or go to the church on Friday, Dec. 23 (9AM-12PM); Saturday, Dec. 24 (9AM-1PM); Sunday, December 25 (12PM-3PM).

Check donation can be directed to TIC Community Dinner, c/o Monica Brunner, 414 West Miller St. Newark, NY 14513.

They are asking that Park Presbyterian Church provide the following:

- 10 gifts (\$10 value each)

- 3-4 pies

Gifts may be wrapped or unwrapped; if you wrap them, please mark whether for a man, woman, or child (girl/boy)

**A sign-up sheet for pies will be in the lounge.** I believe these can be dropped off at the Methodist Church on Friday, Dec. 23 (9AM-12PM) or Saturday, Dec. 24 (9AM-1PM).

Anyone needing transportation in Newark and Arcadia only, please call John Murphy at 315-331-3255 by December 23. For delivery in Newark and Arcadia contact Karen Vanderbrook at 315-359-7854.

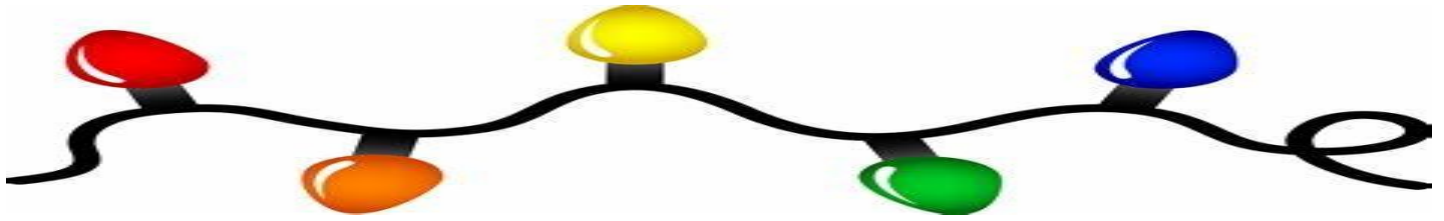


### Family Promise:

PPC contacts: Anne Rogers: or 315-331-7808; Paul Salisbury: [psalis14513@gmail.com](mailto:psalis14513@gmail.com) or 315-331-0442.

The dates for the dinners for the Newark Community for 2023 are: April 17, 2023, May 8, 2023, September 11, 2023, and October 16, 2023. For now, if you could just mark those dates on your calendar. More will be forthcoming.

Family Promise has realized that to rely on using grant funds for rent is not a viable long-term solution. A possible long-term solution might be buying a property that could be subdivided into apartments; even if they were paying on a mortgage, they would have something in the long term. To this end, Park Presbyterian Women voted to pledge \$4,000.00 to Family Promise for them to buy house. The Finance Committee made a motion that was approved at the last Session meeting for \$16,000.00 to be pledged toward this endeavor. You'll be hearing more in the future. Please address any questions to Sue Rowe at (845) 791-0389.



**Little Red Wagon: December 4, 2022:** Park Presbyterian Church is putting together 10 Christmas Bags for the Newark Food Closet. The Food Closet puts Christmas Bags together each year; they supply a turkey. Park Church will supply the rest of the needed items for ten bags. To do this, we will need 10 of each of the following items by **Dec. 4, 2022**, which is the next Little Red Wagon collection. Please provide only what you feel able.

**Items for Christmas Bags:**

Canned Green Beans  
Cream of Mushroom Soup  
Canned Corn  
Scalloped potatoes  
Applesauce  
Canned Fruit  
Brownie or Cake mix  
Frosting in a Can  
Christmas snack or candy  
Bottle of juice or sparkling cider

**News from Common Threads:** Drop off for clothing is in our lounge M-W, F from 9AM-4PM. They need boys and girls clothing sizes 8-14. Clothing may be used; underwear and socks should be new. No shoes, please. Helpers are needed on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays of the month from 9-12. Contact Sarah at [shumphrey8008@gmail.com](mailto:shumphrey8008@gmail.com) or call 585-409-4667 for more information and to schedule a work/help time!

**Survivor Advocacy Center of the Finger Lakes:** A Thank You letter was received from Amy Pauley, Executive Director, for the \$151.25 that was sent from the Peace and Global Witness Offering in October. She writes that their services include emergency housing for the victims of domestic violence along with confidential crisis intervention services for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault including personal, community, criminal justice, educational, medical, and legal advocacy; short-term counseling; information and referrals; 24/7 bilingual toll-free hotline and wrap-around services. They greatly appreciated the gift.

**Upcoming Events @Newark FUMC**

12/10-A Christmas Carol at 2:00 PM  
12/11-Rochester Mandolin Orchestra at 2:00 PM  
12/17-Annual Christmas Cookie Sale at 10:00 AM  
12/25-Community Christmas Dinner at 1:00 PM





# Lectionary Readings for December

Get a head start on contemplating God's Word for the month of December.

**December 4, 2022:** Isaiah 11: 1-10; Matthew 2: 1-12

**December 11, 2022:** Isaiah 35: 1-10; Matthew 11: 2-11

**December 18, 2022:** Isaiah 7: 10-14; Matthew 1: 18-24

**December 24, 2022:** Genesis 1: 26-2:4; Isaiah 9: 2-7; Luke 1: 26-35; Luke 2: 1-20

**December 25, 2022:** Isaiah 52: 7-10; Ps 98; Hebrews 1: 1-4 (5-12); John 1: 1-14

**January 1, 2022:** Isaiah 60: 1-6; Matthew 2: 1-12



## Stu's Corner:



**December 4, 2022:** *Preparing the Way-Roadwork* by Sally Sutton

**December 11, 2022:** *Slowly, Slowly, Slowly Said the Sloth*-Eric Carle

**December 18, 2022:** *The Legend of the Candy Cane* by Lori Walburg

**December 24, 2022:** "The First Christmas" from *One Wintry Night* by Ruth Bell Graham

**December 25, 2022:** *The Cripple Lamb* by Max Lucado

**January 1, 2022:** *The Christmas Story* by Moira Butterfield

## Flowers:

**2022 Poinsettias:** Please stop into the office to get our order form, or you can get them in your bulletin over the next few weeks. The 2022 price is \$8.00/plant. Orders are due to the office by Friday, December 9, 2022. Flowers may be picked up following the Christmas Eve Service or after the Sunday Morning Christmas Service.

**December 18, 2022:** In Honor of Ken Rowe by Sue Rowe and Steve Mitchell

**\*\*\*Please be aware: Starting January 2023, the price for a standard flower arrangement will be \$30.00.**





**PPC Advent/Christmas:**

**Dec. 4, 2022:** Worship/Communion 10:00 AM

**Dec. 11, 2022:** Dish to Pass after the Church Service

**Dec. 24, 2022:** Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols 7:00 PM

**Dec. 25, 2022:** Worship Service-10:00 AM

**Don't forget to save the date:**

**January 22, 2022:** Annual Congregational Meeting after the Worship Service

**Liturgists: Thank You!**

**December 4, 2022:** Anne Rogers

**Liturgists needed for:**

**December 11, 2022**

**December 18, 2022**

**December 24, 2022:**

**December 25, 2022**

**3 "Families" needed for Lighting of The Advent Candle:**

**November 27, 2022:**

**December 4, 2022:** Lang Family

**December 11, 2022:** Humphrey Family

**December 18, 2022:**

**December 24, 2022:** Taylor Family

**1 Reader yet needed for Lessons and Carols on Christmas Eve:**

Reader 1: Genesis 1: 26-2:4: Karen Cameron

Reader 2: Isaiah 9:2-7: Natalie Lemmon

Reader 3: Luke 1: 26-35: Kris Bald

Reader 4: Luke 2: 1-20:

Pastor Susan Frost  
Office Hours: Monday,  
Tuesday, Wednesday,  
and Friday from 9-4  
Please call 315-331-2255 to  
make any appointments  
Email:interimpastorsfrost2  
@gmail.com



**News from the Bridge Builder's Team: Emergency Building Repair Fund**

**Luke 6:45 "The good person out of the good treasure of the heart produces good...for it is out of the abundance of the heart that the mouth speaks."**

Twenty-three "good persons" of Park Presbyterian Church have spoken out of the abundance of their heart... \$38, 225 has been pledged; \$21,925 has already been received. As the verse says...may this abundance produce good for future generations to come. Praise be to God!



### **Christmas Joy Offering:**

When Jesus was born among us, he came as a helpless baby destined to bring joy, peace and salvation to his people. This child, God's Word made flesh—fully human and fully God—became one of us. One with us. One among us. In all of our vulnerabilities, struggles and triumphs, Jesus became one of us—leading us, knowing us, connecting us to himself and to each other, and offering us his gift of eternal life.

*The perfect gift.*



Through the Christmas Joy Offering, we reflect God's perfect gift to us, with generous support of church leaders among us—past, present and future—who have pointed us to God.

We honor and celebrate leaders like retired pastors, church workers and their families who have faithfully guided and led us but who now find themselves in critical financial need. We honor and celebrate emerging leaders like students in schools and colleges equipping communities of color, who develop leadership skills as they pursue their education and prepare to bring their gifts in service to the world God loves so much. Jesus' example as a child born to be among us and lead us to eternal life provides a pattern for us to follow as we celebrate those who have led us in the past and will lead us into the future. Through the Christmas Joy Offering, we come together to support past, present and future leaders, embodying God's perfect gift to us, Jesus Christ.

The "Christmas Joy Offering" will be collected and blessed on December 18, 2022. 50% of this offering assists current and retired church workers and their families with critical financial needs. The other 50% makes it possible for students to learn and grow in faith at Presbyterian -related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

### *Remembering...*

#### **Obituary:**

Sandra Virginia Bird Norcross White (Sandy), passed away peacefully at Highland Hospital on October 27, 2022 at the age of 94. Sandra was born in Brockton, Mass. to the late Mildred M. and Gardner C. Norcross. She earned a BS in Home Economics from Syracuse University before moving to Geneva N.Y. to work for the telephone company. She married William Beverly White and helped him build their home on Seneca Lake. Sandy worked part-time teaching English to enlistees at the Seneca Army Depot while raising two daughters, Cheryl and Jean. She was a Girl Scout leader, a Sunday school teacher at West Fayette Presbyterian Church, a member of Home Bureau and the Ladies Auxiliary for the Varick Volunteer Fire Department. She also earned a BA in Elementary Education from Hobart and William Smith College and taught fifth grade at Romulus Central School until retiring. Sandy enjoyed RVing around the country with Bev and belonged to the Good Sam and Carriage Travel Clubs. In later years, she was a member of the Geneva Women's Club and sang in the choir of the First Presbyterian Church of Waterloo. She also served a term as Regent for the Seneca Chapter of the DAR. Sandy loved her family, their celebrations, outings, and trips. Travels abroad with her daughter, Jean, were special. She is predeceased by her husband, William Beverly White; siblings, Gardner C. Norcross, Jr., Meredith Norcross and Adrian Norcross; and grandson, Mathew Lotz.



**Time/Talents:** *1 Peter 4:10 "As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace."*

**What are some ways you can use your gifts and talents here at Park Church?**

The **Nominating Committee** has started its work discerning what is God's will and listening to the Holy Spirit as they ask some of you to consider ordered ministry positions-either as Deacon's or as Ruling Elders. Please prayerfully consider whether the Spirit might be guiding you into one or the other of these ministry positions.

**Deacons:** All Christians are charged to love their neighbors and care for one another. But the deacons provide an ORGANIZED way to bringing the love of Jesus Christ to the church and the community. The Book of Order says, "The ministry of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Christ Jesus for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, or anyone in distress. Persons of spiritual character, honest repute, exemplary lives, brotherly and sisterly love, sincere compassion, and judgment should be chosen for this ministry." (G-2.0201)

**Ruling Elders:** The specific responsibilities of the session are spelled out in the Book of Order. They include:

- Providing worship for God's people,
- Receiving and dismissing church members as well as equipping them to do Christ's work,
- Overseeing all the congregation's programs,
- Approving the annual budget (while clearly communicating with the congregation)
- Overseeing church property, and,
- Guiding the church's ministries justice, service, and evangelism.

**Committees/Teams:** Committees provide opportunities to draw on the leadership gifts of other members and affiliates of the congregation. These include the: Bridge Builder's, Christian Ed, Fellowship, Finance, Mission/Outreach, Personnel, Property, and Worship and Music.

**Task Forces:** Three task forces will soon be meeting—to brainstorm recommendations for moving forward specific to three areas: Christian Ed., Fellowship, and Mission/Outreach

If you wish to be on a committee/team and/or a task force, please contact the office or the pastor and let them know. (315-331-2255)

If you are a member of Park Church and would like to be considered as a Deacon or a Ruling Elder, please advise one of the nominating team members-Karen Cameron (315-945-6168), Holly Burgess (315)-573-3572, Sarah Humphrey (585)-409-4667 or Deb McCrossen (315)-879-4391

If you are not a member of Park Church and would like to be a member, membership classes will be starting in the New Year. Please contact Rev. Susan Frost at [interimpastorsfrost2@gmail.com](mailto:interimpastorsfrost2@gmail.com) or 315-331-2255.

If you would like to sing in the choir-contact Sarah Humphrey at (585)-409-4667; if you would like to join bells-contact Natalie Lemmon at (315)573-4423.





**Treasure:** *Deuteronomy 16:17, “all shall give as they are able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God that he has given you.”*

According to the Cambridge Dictionary, a pledge is a serious or formal promise, especially one to give money or to be a friend, or something that you give as a sign that you will keep a promise.

It was brought to my attention that some congregants/affiliates of Park Church might be hesitant to make a pledge for 2023 simply because they see making a pledge as legally binding. I see a pledge more as a covenant; it is something between you and God.

A church does not have membership fees the way many civic organizations do. Any and all are welcome to come to church each Sunday or to tune into the services online, with no questions asked. No one is checking how much money anyone makes.

The only problem is that a church does take money to maintain, and it does take money to hire a pastor and to pay staff. It is true that it is different from a capital campaign where you can be sure exactly where your money is going. When you pledge to the church for the year, you place your trust in the session—those that you vote into the office who oversees programming, justice, service, and evangelism, and who oversee church property and even more, you take a step of faith by giving back to God out of the abundance that God has supplied.

This is how pledging “grows” our faith. In letting go, we trust...much like the Stewardship sermon and the Tale of Two Seas. Both the Sea of Galilee and the Dead Sea are fed by the River Jordan. One thrives and one is dead. The reason that the Sea of Galilee thrives is because it “shares” its water and does not stagnate like the Dead Sea.

Thanks be to God! To date, 25 people have pledged so far for the year 2023. Their pledges total \$50,360.00. If you haven’t made a pledge before, why not try it this year? A pledge is simply a promise. Please know that if something changes in your finances/life, your pledge can be changed. There is no pressure.

By pledging, you allow the Finance Committee to get a better handle on the budget—much like your household budget; it helps to know how much you are working with!

## 2022 Session Members

### Clerk of Session:

Cari Taylor

Steve Mitchell

Natalie Lemmon

Dale Groover

Anne Rogers

Rick Bald

Karen Cameron

## 2022 Deacons

Gil Burgess

Holly Burgess

Sue Rowe

Joan Boerman

Scott Briggs

Eileen Taylor

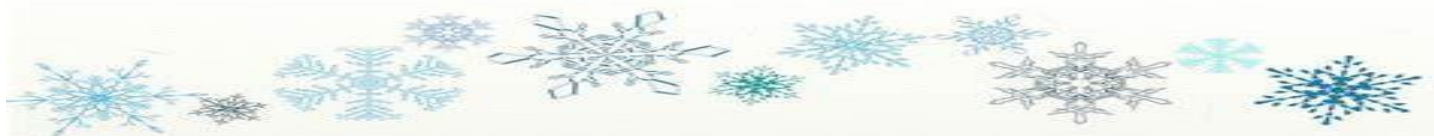
Virginia Bodine





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 530PM NA Meeting 6PM Venturing Crew	3 11AM White Funeral 6PM-AA meeting
4 Communion 9AM Choir Rehearsal 10 AM Sanctuary 5PM Finger Lakes Bells	5 430PM Chancel Bells 6PM Back 2 Basics	6 4PM Quilters 6PM Pack 138 Meeting	7 6PM Pack 138 Meeting	8	9 5:30 PM NA Meeting 6 PM Wayne Gem	10 6PM-AA meeting
11 9AM Choir Rehearsal 10 AM Sanctuary Dish to Pass Gathering 1115AM Worship/Music 5PM Finger Lakes Bells	12 10AM Deacons 12PM PW Meeting 3PM Finance 430PM Chancel Bells 6PM Back 2 Basics	13 4PM Quilters 6PM Pack 138 Meeting	14 6PM Pack 138 Meeting	15	16 5:30 PM NA Meeting 6PM Venturing Crew	17 6PM-AA meeting
18 9AM Choir Rehearsal 10 AM Sanctuary 5PM Finger Lakes Bells	19 430PM Chancel Bells 6PM Back 2 Basics	20 4PM Quilters 530 PM TIC Meeting 6PM Pack 138 Meeting	21 10AM DAR 6PM Pack 138 Meeting 7PM Session	22	23 5:30 PM NA Meeting	24 10AM –NA planning 6PM-AA meeting 7PM Christmas Eve Lesson and Carols
25 10 AM Sanctuary	26 430PM Chancel Bells 6PM Back 2 Basics Parkview Submissions	27 4PM Quilters 6PM Pack 138 Meeting	28 6PM Pack 138 Meeting Parkview Folding	29	30 5:30 PM NA Meeting	31 6PM-AA meeting

2022



# Prayers

Let us pray for wholeness, healing, and peace for all who suffer, are in need, face surgeries or times of uncertainty, or who wait for results and/or ongoing tests. From our own congregation, we lift in prayer to you, O God, the names of: Aaron, Bethany, Dom, ET, James, Glen, Todd, Richard, William, Jaime, Douglas Groover, Christine, Ivy, Teegan, and Meghan O'Tool (loss of husband and father), Daniel Allerton, Doris Waddell (loss of son), Wanda Gallagher, Amanda and family, Emma Downey, Lisa Tremiti, Shirley May, Becky Teeter, Ginny Bodine, Sandy Rude, Joan B., Ryan and Cara, Carol Howell, Becky Derr, Michele and Austin, Dan and Gil Marcano, David, Bob Hanson, Meghan and Eric Nagel and daughter Ashlynn, Steve, Esther H, Linda Loree, Judy Leone, Aaliyah Matias, Eleanor and Roger, Barb, Scott Blondell, Bill Doebler, Cheryl Lotz, and Family Promise families.

Let us pray for courage and strength to face each day for all those in need of care and for their caregivers. We lift in prayer to you, O God, the names of: Bonnie and Thurlow, Ed and Cheryl, Kay and Dale, Jeanne and Paul, Barb, Eileen B., Betty C., Thelma, and Jim and Anne Peck.

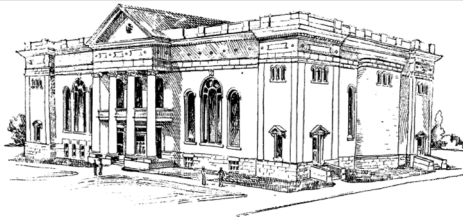
Let us pray for peace, compassion, and strength for tomorrow for all who mourn the loss of loved ones-families and friends. In prayer, we continue to lift up the families of: Lee Prong, Lynn Donelson, Vern Coleman, Suzanna Blik Stresing, Rev. John Watkins, The Johnson and South families, Dorothy Ehrhardt, and Melody Neely, Florence Chapin, Sean O'Tool, Steve Kepner, Richard Mosich, and Richard Lunt, Patricia Kaupp, and Bill Guchone, Laura Bouwans, David Papineau, Donna Gulick, Donald Hanagan, Jamie Stoob, Nancy Otnod, Gene Oosterling, Debbie Pastos, Marc Williams, Vicky Shirey, Father of Judy, Sandra White, and Ed Smith.

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

*Our Father who art in heaven hallowed be thy name, the kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is kingdom and glory forever. AMEN*



Park Presbyterian Church  
110 Maple Court  
Newark, NY 14513



***“Our mission is to make  
Christ visible  
by believing, living and  
sharing the word of God.”***

***“Our vision is to be God’s  
light – a beacon of love, in-  
teraction, and guidance in  
Faith and comfort. “***



Be sure to check out our Facebook page for a way to see the Sunday Services.

Facebook is at: [www.facebook.com/parkchurch110](https://www.facebook.com/parkchurch110)

(Be sure to like and follow to get notifications when we go live.)

Find us on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-PmjX998CQTaJ3EEkSpl6w>

Be sure to subscribe and click the notification bell to be told when we upload videos.

