



Welcome to those who have worshipped in this place for years.  
Welcome to our first time guests.  
Welcome to all generations, families, single people and couples.  
Welcome to those who have no church home, need strength, have doubt, want to follow Christ or do not believe.

### **PASTORAL STAFF**

Pastor - Michael Yeoman 315-761-2721  
Oneidafpcpastor@gmail.com

### **CHURCH STAFF**

Office Secretary - John Merritt 315-527-2939

Sexton-Jennawade Skellham 315-281-3377

Treasurer -Frank Kordziel 315-263-1474

Choir Director - Stephanie Gwilt  
315- 886-6858

Organist - Melinda Phoenix-Heart  
315-247-9201

Financial Secretary - Pat Thorpe 315-363-8948

Clerk of Session -Pat Thorpe 315-363-8948

**304 Broad Street**  
(corner of Broad and Stone)  
**Oneida, NY 13421**

### **CHURCH OFFICE**

Phone: 315-363-7590

#### **HOURS:**

Monday – Friday  
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

### **GENERAL EMAIL**

oneidafirstpres  
@oneidafirstpres.org

### **WEB SITE**

oneidafirstpres.org



Peace

### **Our Mission Statement**

The vision of the members of Oneida First Presbyterian Church  
is to LIVE God's plan for our family, our community and our  
world. TOGETHER with God's grace and guidance, we will  
reach out and sow the LOVE of Jesus Christ.



## **FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS 2022 TOTALS:**

Total proceeds: **\$7929.50**

Raffle Winners: Quilt: **Kim DeRuby**

Painting: **Trish Pfluke**

Ceramic Tree: **Deb Owens**

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED SET UP, WORK, COOK, AND TAKE  
DOWN AFTER THE FESTIVAL!**

The Bible Study Group meets in the Chapel each Sunday immediately following worship. Please note the time change. We are discussing some of the parables of Jesus.

Jesus communicated deep spiritual truths through simple, vivid and engaging stories. Woven from the stuff of everyday life, the parables of Jesus made the kingdom of God understandable and accessible to those He spoke to.

This interactive small group Bible Study will hopefully give participants new insights into His parables and their meanings that will help you to appreciate more fully their relevance for your own life. You can join in at any time

One of Sharon Warren's relatives lost their home in a fire a little over a week ago: His employer started a GoFund Me page for them and is going to match the donations up to \$25,000.

This is the link if people are interested in donating. Anything is greatly appreciated; including love and prayers.

<https://www.gofundme.com>

Search on:

Adam Sobieraj and family by Whatnot Inc

**CHORAL RESPONSE**

**"We Light the Advent Candles"**

*Verses 1 & 3*

**OPENING HYMN**

***"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"***

**#38**

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*O holy, patient, and loving God, in this season of grace-filled longing we await the coming of your son and our savior. In the midst of our busy world, our busy lives, we need your help to remind us of what is truly important and necessary. The one gift that lasts come from you alone, gracious God, as we grow in our your everlasting love. Increase in us a growing urgency to celebrate the birth of your Son in whose name we pray. Amen;*

**\*CALL TO CONFESSION** (From Hebrews 4:14-16)

In Matthew 3:2, John the Baptist cries, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." Let us confess our sins this Advent to prepare for the coming of Christ.

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

*Forgive us, Lord, for the times we refuse to listen to those who announce your presence. Forgive us when we ignore the cries that come from the wilderness. Allow us to understand that, like John the Baptist, we too are unworthy before the Lord of All. Help us live into our baptisms. Remind us of the beginning of the Good News of Jesus Christ, and empower us to be the continuation of that Good News. Amen.*

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Comfort, comfort my people, says our God. Our sins are pardoned. The penalty has been paid in full.

**ALL: THANKS BE TO GOD**

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

**"Glory Be to the Father"**

**#579**

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE** (Socially Distanced Greetings)

**CHILDREN'S TIME**

**WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD**

**ANTHEM**

***"Carol for Advent"***

***Nancy Price and Don Besig***

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

OLD TESTAMENT	Isaiah 11:1-10	OT Page 602
The Word of the Lord	Thanks be to God	
EPISTLE	Romans 15:4-13	NT Page 153
The Word of the Lord	Thanks be to God	
NEW TESTAMENT	Matthew 3:1-12	NT Page 2
The Word of the Lord	Thanks be to God	
SERMON	“Life Lessons From a Wolf and Lamb”	Pastor Mike
*HYMN	“Angels We Have Heard on High”	#23

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *The Apostles’ Creed* (Ecumenical Version)

*I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.*

*I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead.*

*I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting.*  
*Amen*

**WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LONG TERM PRAYER CONCERNS

Abby Bartell	Jean Kowalik
Brody	Val Lowry
Pam Carrigan	Sam Messina
Scott Colvin	Maribeth Matthews
Peggy Eastman	Jason Maycock (Sandy Glynn’s brother)
Maria Erdo	Tom Panasci
John Ferguson	Dan & Claudia Rayome
Robert Feldman (Melinda’s Father)	David Rice
Jillian Felt	Doug Rosekrans
Don Fuller (Stephanie Gwilt’s Father)	Judy Sweet
Pat Grabow (Chrissy Thompson’s Mom)	Jim Thorpe
Becky Grasso	Jan Whiting
Alison Hilgenberg (Phyllis Little’s Daugther)	Milicent Vidal
Wendy Holtz	Bill Young
Joyce Helms	Nancy (Friend of Chrissy Thompson)
Millie Johnson	Brittany (Friend of Chrissy Thompson)
Victor Johnson	
Victor Johnson III	

SHORT TERM PRAYER CONCERNS

Sally Boczulak (Friend of Pat Thorpe’s)	Rose Wright
Megan Roberts (Friend of Carol Miller)	

If you have a prayer need, there are cards in the pews. Fill it out and hand it to an usher. If you know of anyone who is sick, in the hospital, or in need of our prayers, PLEASE call the Church Office, 363-7590. Please let us know also when they are healed and can be taken off the prayer list.

Upcoming Blood Drives for November



Thursday, December 8th; First Presbyterian Church Cazenovia, NY 1:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.
Friday, December 9th; St Paul’s United Methodist Church Oneida, NY 1:00 p.m.-6:00p.m.



**ELDERS**

**CLASS OF 2022**

Donna Ausman  
Kim DeRuby  
Carol Miller  
Becky Williams

**CLASS OF 2023**

Paul Mancarella  
Nancy Rinehard  
Dave Schellhase  
Jan Whiting  
Cathy Opperman

**CLASS OF 2024**

Randy Bonville  
Frank Kordziel  
Lucille Merriman  
Michael Merriman  
Pat Thorpe

**DEACONS**

**CLASS OF 2022**

Sue Kordziel  
Rose Lockwood  
Doug Lockwood  
Kathy Nichols  
Chrissy Thompson

**CLASS OF 2023**

**CLASS OF 2024**

John Merritt  
Jennawade Skellham

**FAMILY AND FRIENDS  
WHO ARE GRIEVING FOR:**

Rita Reiss (Jennawade's Cousin)  
Horace Keller

**SPECIAL CONCERNS:**

All first responders, nurses, doctors and healthcare professionals dealing first hand during this global pandemic.

All victims and survivors of gun violence.

The Citizens of Ukraine

Pray for those who are serving overseas and our Police/Fire Safety personnel.

Pray for the victims of Hurricane Ian

**PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS:** Pray for those who are stationed in non-combat zones: Stephen Cafalone, Jack Sharkey, Mark Sia, Nicholas Young, Philip Messina, Ryan Geer, John Goodwill, Errol Crossman, Corey Reed, Michael McMahon, Andrew Fargo, Jim Jennings, Michelle Ludwig, Peter Thompson, Dylan McClelland

Those serving in combat zones:



**MISSION EMPHASIS:** Presbyterian Mission Agency of the PC(USA)

**THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)**

*Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy 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 the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen*

**OFFERTORY**

*"The First Noel"*

*Traditional Carol*

**\*DOXOLOGY**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

**INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE**

**GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: The Lord be with you

*All: And also with you.*

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

*All: We lift them to the Lord.*

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

*All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.*

Pastor: It is truly right and our greatest joy..... (continued) You spoke through prophets calling us to turn from our willful ways to new obedience and righteousness. You sent your only Son to be the way to eternal life.....

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels and with the faithful of every time and place who forever sing to the glory of your name.

*All: "Sanctus"*

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.*

Pastor: You are holy, O God of majesty and blessed is Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord. He took upon himself the weight of our sin and carried the burden of our guilt... (continued) ,, Accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving as a living and holy offering of ourselves that our lives may proclaim the One crucified and risen.

Pastor: Praise to you, Lord Jesus

**All:**    *Dying you destroyed our death.  
Rising you restored our life.  
Lord Jesus come in glory.*

Pastor: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit unite us with the Living Christ and with all who are baptized in his name, that we may be one in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

#### THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord Jesus on the night of his arrest took bread, and after giving thanks to God, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

The body of Christ broken for you. **(The bread is taken by all.)**

In the same way he took the cup, saying: This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.

The blood of Christ - The cup of salvation. **(The juice is consumed at this time)**

Every time you eat this bread and drink from this cup, you proclaim the saving death of the risen Lord until he comes in glory.

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*God of great expectations, God of Christmas promise, God of child-like hope, we have eaten and drunk from your table. May this banquet fill us with hope in a world of despair. May we be beacons of hope as we wait for the day when the world will be changed. Grant that this taste of your banquet which is to come would give us the hunger for peace and justice in our community and around the world. Amen*

#### REMINDER

The per capita for this year is \$41.14



**Offering Envelopes will be located in the Sanctuary near the Christmas Tree. extra envelopes for anyone that would like them. They have a file card in the extra boxes. Please put your name and the number of the box and place in the offering plate.**



The Toys for Tots boxes are back this year! They can be found in the Auditorium. We will be collecting toys for the next few weeks. We do not have a pick up date yet, but it would be appreciated if you could get your toys in by Friday Dec. 16th.



As a way to beautify the Sanctuary, the Music and Worship team will be ordering Poinsettias for the Christmas season. They will be on the alter on Sunday December 18th and Christmas Eve December 24th. If you would like to have a Poinsettia in memory of someone, please do the following: put your money in an envelope labeled **Poinsettia fund**, with your name and the name(s) for the dedication in the Sunday morning collection plate or mail it to the church office by December 2nd. The deadline for ordering is **Sunday, December 4th**, as we will be ordering from a local florist. The cost of the Poinsettias is:

6 1/2" pot—\$14

7 1/2" pot—\$28

Indicate your color of choice, Red, White, or Pink. All flowers will be wrapped in foil.

### **FOOD PANTRY**

Our food pantry is always in need of several items. Most of these are usually a dollar or under. With two major holidays approaching please take into thought helping those that come to our emergency pantry stop. These items that always go quick are canned corn, canned beefaroni, tomato soup, chicken noodle soup, rice sides, pasta sides, most dried pastas, and canned fruit. You are by no means limited to these items. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Especially by those in need.

COMMUNION ANTHEM *"Bread of the World"* Gordon Young and Reginald Hebe

\*CLOSING HYMN *"People Look East"* #12

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE *"Soon and Very Soon"* Andrae Crouch  
arr. Jack Schrader

POSTLUDE *"Gentle Mary Laid Her Child"* Old English Carol, arr. Betty Colley



Thank you for worshipping with us today! Please join us for coffee and fellowship in the auditorium.



The Presbyterian Women's Christmas Luncheon will be

Tuesday, December 13th @ 12:00 p.m.

Theodore's in Canastota

Chicken Fricasse will be served.

The cost is \$21.00 which can be paid to Carol Miller or

Donna Ausman. All women of the church are invited.





### *Collection Assistants for December*

December 4th-Kim DeRuby

December 11th-Dave Schellhase

December 18th-Carol Miller

December 25th-Becky Williams



### *Scripture Readers for December*

December 4th-Doug Lippert

December 11th-Andy Williams

December 18th-Paul Mancarella

December 24th-Perry Tooker



### *Coffee Servers for December*

December 4th- Pam West and Gail Nicolaisen

December 11th-Kristin and Perry Tooker

December 18th-Marilyn and Don Kingsley

December 25th-No coffee hour



## ***LIFE at ONEIDA FIRST PRESBYTERIAN***

**Calendar for Dec 4th-Dec 11th**

### **Sunday, December 4th**

10 a.m. Worship

Communion

11:15 a.m. Bible Study

### **Monday, December 5th**

6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts

### **Tuesday, December 6th**

6:30 p.m. Team Meetings

### **Wednesday, December 7th**

3 p.m. Connection

6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts

6:30 p.m. Living Waters Youth Group

### **Thursday, December 8th**

### **Friday, December 9th**

### **Saturday, December 10th**

### **Sunday, December 11th**

10 a.m. Worship

11:15 a.m. Bible Study



### **BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK**

Mon-Dorothy Hotaling

Wed-Julie Sarensky

Kim DeRuby

Fri-Carol Musgrove

Happy birthday! Happy birthday! Happy birthday! Happy birthday! Happy birthday!

Happy birthday! Happy birthday! Happy birthday! Happy birthday! Happy birthday!

Happy birthday! Happy birthday!





**27 SHOEBOXES WERE SENT  
OUT THIS YEAR. THANK  
YOU TO EVERYONE WHO  
CONTRIBUTED.**



### *Christmas Joy Offering*

December is upon us and this month is designated for our Christmas Joy Offering. The Presbyterian Church (USA) rejoices in the birth of Jesus Christ in many ways. One way for the church to celebrate this great joy to the world is by supporting the causes funded by the Christmas Joy Offering. 50% of the gifts assist current and retired church workers and their families with critical financial need. 50% of the gifts make it possible for students to learn and grow in faith at Presbyterian related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

### To All Team/Committee Chairpersons Treasurers and to Whomever Else It Applies

All Annual Reports are due in the Church Office by Wednesday, December 22nd. If you would like to get them in earlier, that would be a big help to John. If you are a Treasurer and waiting for a bank statement, the deadline does not apply to you. But please get them in as soon as possible.

The Nicaragua Medical Mission Team is gearing up for their mission trip in February. This year several people from this church, including Pastor Mike, will be making this trip.

There will be several fundraisers coming up but one way you can help now is through vegetable seeds. The team literally takes hundreds of packets of vegetable seeds with them. These go a long way in helping families grow food that will provide needed nourishment. These are often available at Dollar General or Dollar Tree and are value priced. They also take toothbrushes. Please ask your dentist if they might donate some boxes (Oneida dental Group is already donating).

Thank you for your support of this outreach ministry.





The Oneida Area Civic Chorale will present "An American Christmas", a collection of both contemporary and traditional Christmas music, on Sunday December 4 at 4pm in the VVS High School Auditorium. The program will open with "Do You Hear What I Hear", which was written in 1962 by Noel Regney and Gloria Shayne as a plea for peace during the Cuban Missile Crisis. Some of the familiar pieces that will be performed include "White Christmas", "Sleigh Ride", "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" and "Let It Snow, Let It Snow, Let It Snow". "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day" will be presented with a narration describing how Henry Wadsworth Longfellow wrote the poem that eventually became the beloved carol.

The OACC is one of the largest non-auditioned community choruses in the Central New York region and is celebrating 55 years of bringing live choral music to the Central New York area. The 95 singers in this concert are under the direction of Mark Bunce, and accompanied on the piano by Heather O'Connell. Guest musician for this concert is Liz Simchik, who will join the Chorale playing fiddle on several pieces, including the toe-tapping "Brightest and Best". As is tradition with Chorale Christmas concerts, the audience will be invited to join the Chorale in singing some favorite Christmas carols.

Tickets for the concert are \$10 and can be purchased from Chorale members. Tickets are also available at the door and can be purchased through the Chorale website at [www.oneidachorale.org](http://www.oneidachorale.org). Be sure to "like" and "follow" the Oneida Chorale on Facebook! Please refer to the OACC website ([www.Oneidachorale.org](http://www.Oneidachorale.org)) or Facebook page for additional information.



*These Days for October, November and December are in and can be found in the Narthex, Sanctuary and Hallway outside the Boardroom.*

*Our Daily Bread for December, January, and February is now available in the Sanctuary, Narthex and Hallway outside the Boardroom*

## *Potluck Christmas Party*

*The Fellowship committee will be hosting a Potluck Christmas Party on December 18th after the church service. The Fellowship Committee will be providing finger sandwiches and drinks. What we are asking you to provide are your favorite entrees and/or desserts. There will be a sign-up sheet in the auditorium for the next few weeks. This is a time of year for families, and what could be better than sharing a meal with your church family. Not to mention we have the best cooks in town.*



*Christmas is coming and the goose is getting fat. Will you please put a penny in an old man's hat? Or will you put several pennies toward a Christmas collection your elders are taking for our hardworking and always appreciated staff? If you would like to contribute, there are envelopes in the pews. Hand the envelope to any active elder with your donation and be assured it will make its way by Christmas Day. Thank you.*

**The Master's Touch Chorale will be performing an Advent/Christmas concert at St. John's Episcopal Church, 341 Main St., Oneida at 5:00 PM on Dec.10, 2022. No admission ticket is required. Free will offering accepted.**