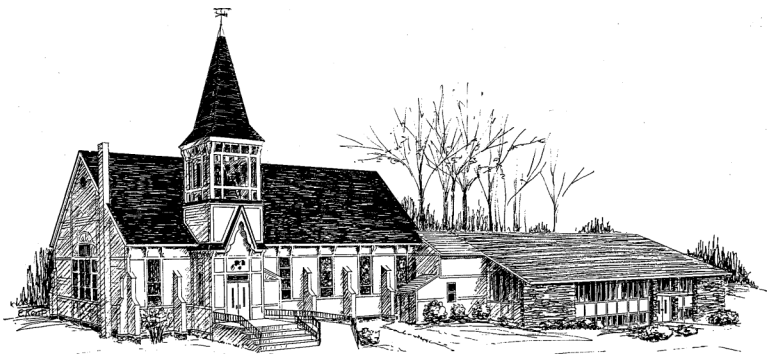


Good News

**The Monthly Newsletter of the People of
HAMILTON UNION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
GUILDERLAND, NEW YORK**



Volume 33 No 11

November 2023

Worship Services are held on Sunday at 10:00 am.

REJOICE
ALWAYS,
PRAY
CONTINUALLY,
GIVE THANKS
IN ALL
CIRCUMSTANCES.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, NIV



“Do not think that saintliness comes from occupation; it depends rather on what one is. The kind of work we do does not make us holy, but we may make it holy.” ~Meister Eckhart, Fourteenth-century mystic

Dear Friends,

One of my favorite daily devotional books, *Common Prayer: A Liturgy for Ordinary Radicals*, which I have invoked many times, notes the occasion of All Saints’ Day on November 1st every year. The brief introduction for the day’s readings begins:

“Since its earliest centuries, the church has set aside a day to remember the great cloud of witnesses who have gone before us in the faith, stretching across the centuries and around the globe. However hard it might seem to follow the way of Jesus in our own time and place, this is a day to remember that we may be crazy, but we are not alone.”

Indeed, this reminder each year is not just a time for us to pause and remember those who have died in the past year who have been close to us or members of our community, but a reminder of how deep and wide is the entire people of God.

In a time and a world that makes it easy to feel like we are alone, divided, cut off from one another for any number of reasons (political, cultural, etc.), this day reminds us that we are one in the body of Christ, and Christ cannot be divided. This good news is particularly striking as wars rage and natural disasters become more frequent. Our hope abides in God, three-in-one, whose love never ends, always calling us home.

I would like to close with this prayer from that same devotional which closes the entry for November 1.

Lord, your saints come from every nation and every tribe. Such is the beauty of your kingdom, where every race and people are honored and recognized as being made in your image. Help us live lives of peace and reconciliation that pay homage to the diversity of your great cloud of witnesses. Amen.

Peace be with you friends,

~Pastor Kyle



November 5 — 1 Kings 18:17-39, *Fire From Heaven*

November 12 — Hosea 11:1-9, *God Won't Quit*

November 19 — Isaiah 5:1-7; 11:1-5, *Fruit of the Vine*

November 26 — (First Sun. of Advent!) 2 Kings 22:1-20; 23:1-3, *Rediscovery*

Christmas Eve Services

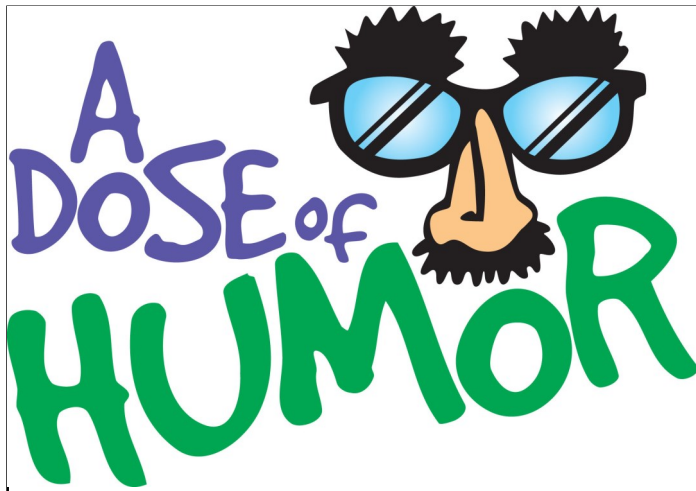
Christmas is coming! This isn't a call to start your shopping, but it is a note to encourage you to mark your calendars for our special services coming up in this season of preparation.

Longest Night Service: *December 17th at 4:00 pm*

Contemporary and Casual Christmas Eve Service: *December 24th at 10:00 am*

Traditional Candlelight Christmas Eve Service: *December 24th at 4:00 pm*





Every Church usually has a sign in front of their parish with a psalm or saying. Some have humor in them. These remarks come from all over the U.S.A. ENJOY!!

1. Be the kind of person your pet thinks you are.
2. Whoever stole our AC units. Keep one. It is hot where you'll be going.
3. God didn't create anything without a purpose, but mosquitoes come pretty close.
4. God's last name is not "damn".
5. There are some questions that cannot be answered by Google.
6. We are not Dairy Queen, but we have great Sundays.
7. Adam and Eve were the first people to not read the apple terms and conditions.
8. Food for thought.....Love is a two-way street....constantly under construction.

Thanksgiving humor

Need to lighten the mood at your holiday dinner table? Share some laughter with these Thanksgiving-themed jokes.

Why did the turkey decline dessert?

Because it was stuffed.

Why did the turkey cross the road twice?

To prove he wasn't a chicken.

What smells the best at Thanksgiving dinner?

Your nose.

Why didn't the chef season the turkey?

There wasn't enough thyme.

Why did the turkey leave the band?

People were fighting over the drumsticks.

TAKE TIME TO RECHARGE

“Then Jesus said, ‘Let’s go off by ourselves to a quiet place and rest awhile.’ He said this because there were so many people coming and going that Jesus and his apostles didn’t even have time to eat” (Mark 6:31, NLT). Can you relate? Especially during the holidays, we’re “coming and going” so much that we often run out of steam.

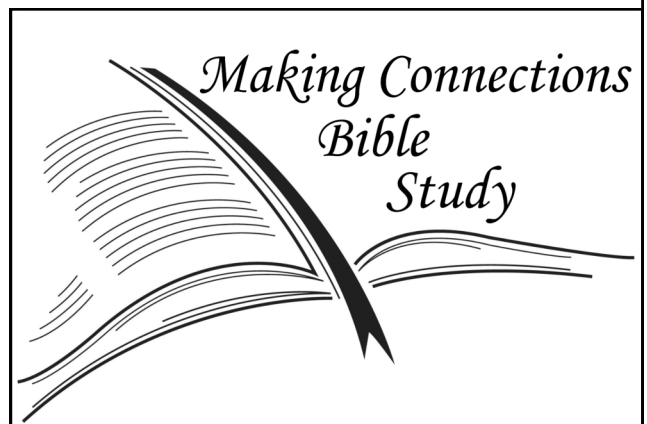
As an introvert, I learned an important lesson while navigating a busy graduation season for my son. I was happy to host a celebration for family and friends, but about 20 minutes into the party, fatigue clouded my spirit. My social battery was empty and desperately needed charging.

I sought out my cousin — who “gets” me — and admitted I needed a break. He kindly replied, “Then go into another room and just be. We’ve got things covered.” I was heard and assured that it was okay to press pause. Even Jesus and his disciples sought privacy and rest.

In what ways do you need a break today? Even if you’re an extrovert, how can you care for your whole self during the holiday rush? Pay attention and give yourself permission to proactively recharge your battery. — Janna Firestone

Making Connections Bible Study Invites You

Our Bible Study welcomes everyone! We meet on Mondays at 1pm via Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82952276592?pwd=U1hudkdXTGFRVm9QRHRQZ1JleUZaQT09>) for lively discussion (guided by a volunteer participant) surrounding, but not limited to, the lectionary readings for the upcoming Sunday. If you have any questions, please call Steve Smith (518.462.9837.)





From the Deacons

Need a Hand?

Even the most self-sufficient person, may, at times, find themselves in need of a helping hand. When this happens to you, please keep in mind that members of our Board of Deacons are available to help out.

Typically, the Deacons (or other church family volunteers) may be available to:

Lend a friendly ear.

Provide transportation (to church activities, medical appointments, etc.)

Run errands (grocery shopping, picking up prescriptions, etc.)

Bring communion to those unable to receive it at church

Currently serving Deacons include Elena Delhagen, Bettye Goodnow, Hannah Hunter-Harris, Cindy Schultz and Ann McKinney.

The best way to let the Deacons know of a need is to contact the “Deacon on Call” for that particular month. You may find the names and phone #s of the current Deacon on Call (and the Backup Deacon on Call) in the Weekly Announcements, which are included when the worship bulletins are sent out by email. You can also find the Deacon on Call in each Monday’s HUPC Digest, or you can call Kim Matthews (Administrative Assistant) at 518-456-5410. The Deacon on Call will then locate a Deacon (or other congregant) who can respond to the need. You can always call Pastor Kyle at 518-456-5410.

Should you feel called to help in meeting the needs of our church family, please contact Ann McKinney, Moderator of the Deacons (518-488-7195) to offer your help OR *consider a call to serve as a Deacon.*

LITURGISTS

Nov. 5	Megan Reis
Nov. 12	Elena Delhagen
Nov. 19	Campus Ministry Students?
Nov. 26	Betty Deitz

TECH TEAM

Nov. 5	Kyle & Audrey Hall
Nov. 12	Liz & Declan Egan
Nov. 19	Meredith & Jack Eberz
Nov. 26	Diane Irwin and George Hannett



GREETERS

Nov. 5	Betty Deitz
Nov. 12	Trudy Hutchinson
Nov. 19	Joanne Wagner
Nov. 26	Ann McKinney



Happy Birthday to:

Mickey Nieman- Nov. 4

Declan Egan- Nov. 6

Oscar Hasselbarth- Nov. 23

Michael Hall- Nov. 24

Betty Deitz- Nov. 27

Dianna Newman- Nov. 27

Happy Anniversary to:

Bill & Charlotte Hasselbarth-

Nov. 11

If you would like your birthday, anniversary, or some other special occasion printed in the "Good News", please notify Ann McKinney at (518) 488-7195 or email me at: ANNANDPETERMCKINNEY@GMAIL.COM

If you see that an incorrect date is in the "Good News", please let me know.
Thanks! *Ann McKinney*

November 5



November 5

DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN YOU WERE SIX YEARS OLD?

JOANNE WAGNER DOES! 84 years ago, when she was six years old, Joanne started attending Hamilton Union Presbyterian Church, with her neighbors. She went with them to Sunday school and church! At age 14, she joined the church as part of a large communicants' class led by The Reverend Edgar DeGraff, the pastor. The class included cousins Vera and Jack Ward, Randall Hallenbeck, Tom Constable, Joan, Maybelle and Bertha Beaton, Ed Vedder and others. This was a very active Youth Group. On Christmas Eve they caroled by foot. Their route included walking Willow and Hamilton Streets, Foundry Rd, and Rt. 20 to the area where "Hamilton Square" is now located. They returned to the church for snacks and hot chocolate and then attended the e late worship service.

Joanne Mesick (Wagner) was born on October 15, 1933, in Amsterdam, NY. Her parents had been residing in Guilderland since 1931, but she has remained a town resident all 90 years. Early on, the family lived on Willow Street in the house next to the two-room school house (currently the New York State Police Headquarters) where her sister, Anna Lee, was born on Joanne's eighth birthday. The family then moved to 41 Willow Street. While living there, Joanne walked to school with the Beaton girls who lived a few doors down the street. Joanne attended 7 grades in that school before being bussed to Altamont High for the remaining 5 years, graduating in 1951. During her senior year, her parents built their home on Schoolcraft Street, where Joanne resided until her marriage in 1956.

Joanne says, "The Reverend Albert Docktor was the pastor who married us 67 years ago at Hamilton Union Presbyterian Church. He said that it was one of the most beautiful ceremonies he had ever performed. My husband's name is Merlin but I didn't know that for a long time. I, and almost everyone, knew him as "Moe" (Surprise!) The marriage license said "Merlin". When we were first married we lived in a small mobile home on the land where our house stands now (on Dunnsville Road). We started building in the summer of 1958 and moved in during January of 1959. At that time there was a Men's Club and Women's Guild (not Presbyterian Women) at the church."

Merlin and Joanne's two precious children and three precious grandchildren are her greatest joys! After Joanne and Moe's children were grown, Joanne became the Financial Secretary for HUPC. She followed Jeff Webb and held that position during the Reverend Thomas Duncan's pastorate. Joanne served on the Outreach Committee for many years. She worked efficiently on that committee with Al Deitz, Joan Hoose Howe, Joy Harding, Ron Messersmith, Ruth Runyan and many others. She has also been a loyal and faithful active Deacon. In addition, the Worship Committee has been blessed with having Joanne on its committee. For many years, Joanne coordinated the "Flower Giving Chart". She kept a meticulous record of the dates when church families donated flowers to be used in worship and, if desired, given to those with special Joys or Concerns, after the service. She also has been an usher and prepared and served communion. Joanne continues to be a greeter. In addition, she has been active in Presbyterian Women. She has served on the Coordinating Team and did a fantastic job as Treasurer for many years. In addition, she has been actively involved in the Lord's Acre Auction, Grand Garage Sales and Brooks' BBQ fund raisers. Joanne is a practical person with sensible ideas and she is also a very willing worker as well as a fascinating and fun-loving person with a lot of faith.

When Joanne is not volunteering with the church, you can find her happily digging in the dirt, planting and transplanting. Joanne, has always enjoyed cleaning her home and at 90, she still scrubs the floors on her hands and knees. In winter Joanne bakes, reads, does jigsaw puzzles and cooks. She creates delicious soups. Joanne says that Moe was willing to eat anything she put on the table. He never complained about a meal, (*Perhaps because Joanne is a marvelous cook*) but he especially enjoyed anything Italian. This is only one of the many reasons that Joanne and Moe, together, made a beautiful, meaningful and lasting married life. They have been and still are both dearly loved by their family (including their church family) and friends. Joanne and Merlin's (Moe's) 64th wedding anniversary was celebrated on May 26, 2020!

The community, our church family, their friends and family miss Moe since he passed away on December 21, 2020. His granddaughter, Madalyn ("Maddie") said this about her grandfather: *"If I were to think of my family members and myself as trees on this earth, then I would consider my grandfather as the sun. Like the sun does for all living things on earth, Papa was always looking to give us everything we needed to thrive, he brightened our lives with his love, and he never asked for anything in return - except for our love."*

If you don't know Joanne, please take time to meet her. You'll be glad you did! Just look toward the back of the sanctuary for a lovely and very modest lady!!

HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY JOANNE!



Merlin & Joanne Wagner



Thank you for all who took the time to help Joanne Wagner celebrate her 90th birthday on October 15!

Cornerstone Campus Ministry - Food and Faith Program

Food & People Needed

Tuesday, November 28, 6 pm - 7:30 pm

Food and Faith is a program of the Cornerstone Campus Ministry at the Interfaith Center on the UAlbany Campus. Hamilton Union will be providing a meal on Tues, Nov. 28. Donations of main dish, side dish, beverage, and dessert for 15 are needed, plus people to visit with the students. If you would like to help, there will be a sign-up sheet in the back of the Sanctuary by Nov 12 or contact Charlotte Hasselbarth at 518-356-0637 or chasselbarth@hotmail.com. Food needs to be brought to the kitchenette in the Christian Education Building, in a disposable container, labeled "Campus Ministry" by 5 pm that night. If you would like to eat and visit with the students, a carpool will leave the church at 5:15 pm or come right to the Interfaith Center at 6 pm. After the dinner, Rev. Kyle Delhagen will lead a casual worship program.

ANNUAL MITTEN TREE - Sunday, November 19 to Sunday, December 10

From Sun, Nov 19 - Sun, Dec 10, we will be collecting new (handmade or purchased) gloves, mittens, scarves and hats for the Allies for Justice, an immigrant support group, New Faith Program for Women at the Capital City Rescue Mission, the Family Life Center at the Schenectady City Mission, the Guilderland Food Pantry and Brian Nitsky's Living Resources Group Home, where there are 5 adult men. Donations can be placed on the "Mitten Tree" in the back of the Sanctuary, in the collection box outside of the Christian Education Building, in the box at the top of the stairs in the Christian Education Building and at CeCe's Wool in Hamilton Square. Items for men are especially needed.



Trudy Hutchinson has donated yard to Presbyterian Women, just in time for making items for our Mitten Tree. There is a box of yarn the Fellowship Hall. Please help yourself. Thank You in advance from Presbyterian Women

Save the Date - All Women Invited**Presbyterian Women's (PW) Christmas Potluck Luncheon Program -****Making Christmons****Tues, Dec 12 - 10:30-am - 1:30 pm**

Please consider coming to our Christmas Potluck Luncheon, even if you have never been to a PW activity before. We would love to have you join us. We will be making Christmons to decorate the Mitten Tree after the winter accessories are given away, plus signing Christmas cards for people who need to be remembered and young adults in our church family.

Maryanne Masley-Hannett will lead the program on making Christmons. They are gold and white Christmas decorations in the shape of Christian symbols.

**Presbyterian Women's (PW) News - All Women are Welcome**

All women are invited to participate in any Presbyterian Women's activity at any time. There is no need to make a commitment to join the organization. For questions about Presbyterian Women, contact Charlotte Hasselbarth at 518-356-0637 or chasselbarth@hotmail.com. We meet in the lounge, with a zoom option.

At our next Circle Meeting on Tues, Nov. 14. We will be discussing Lesson 2, Sabbath and Creation from the Bible Study Celebrating Sabbath: Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight. Bring a bag lunch. Beverage and dessert will be provided. Extra Study books are available. The Bible Study is discussed during the first hour of our meeting, should you be interested in the Bible Study only. For questions, contact Charlotte Hasselbarth at 518-356-0637 or chasselbarth@hotmail.com.

Volunteer Opportunities

The Mission Team announces the next volunteer opportunities at the Regional Food Bank, to sort donated food:

**Thurs., Nov. 16
From 5:00-6:30pm**



We will have up to 9 slots available, first come, first served. NO sandals or open toe shoes! We are working in a warehouse.

A good opportunity to serve the community, and the work is not difficult. If you are interested, please contact Wayne Gannett to sign up at jgannett@nycap.rr.com.

News on hunger, from CBS News March 21, 2023:

Almost 25% of American adults are food insecure, a jump of about five percentage points from a year earlier as the double whammy of high inflation and the end of pandemic benefits squeezes more household budgets, according to a new study by the Urban Institute.

Food insecurity indicates that someone isn't able to secure enough food for a nutritious diet, which can lead to skipping meals or cutting back on food. Those strategies, though, can have implications for a person's health and well-being, experts say.

The rise in food insecurity comes as more households are struggling to pay their typical bills amid grocery costs that have surged 20% in two years and rents that have increased 13%. Inflation surged last year to a four-decade high just as several pandemic-related benefits came to an end, heightening the financial stress for many, according to the new report from the Urban Institute.

"Food insecurity can be a canary in the coal mine for people who are experiencing high levels of hardship and aren't able to meet their household needs," Kassandra Martinchek, a research associate in the Center on Labor, Human Services, and Population at the Urban Institute, told CBS MoneyWatch.

She added, "It's a household economic condition where folks don't have enough resources to have enough food for their family for an active or healthy life."



I am GRATEFUL FOR:

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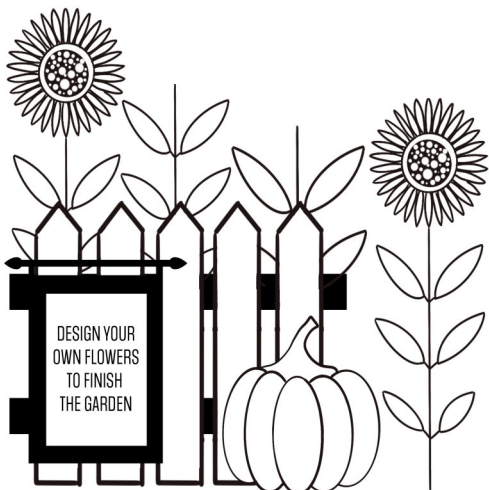
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WORD SEARCH

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GATHERHRGV
DPRKVVYAAUQ
EOIMPPRTKT
GRSRFLVEYH
FSOCAREFRA
AQNLMTSUPN
LOOBIHTLUK
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| <input type="checkbox"/> THANKFUL | <input type="checkbox"/> BLESSED |
| <input type="checkbox"/> THANKSGIVING | <input type="checkbox"/> NOVEMBER |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> GATHER | <input type="checkbox"/> TURKEY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GRATITUDE | <input type="checkbox"/> HARVEST |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FALL | <input type="checkbox"/> PUMPHIN |



DECORATE
YOUR
TURKEY
FEATHERS!



advent CALENDAR

<p>Perform a random act of kindness</p> <p>1</p>	<p>two</p> <p>Donate food to a local food bank</p>	<p>Have a coloring contest</p> <p>3</p>	<p>four</p> <p>Buy socks for a homeless shelter</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Watch a favorite holiday movie</p>
<p>Make or buy a new Christmas ornament</p> <p>6</p>	<p>Let someone go in front of you in line</p> <p>seven</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Clean out and donate outgrown toys</p>	<p>Build a snowman out of cotton balls</p> <p>9</p>	<p>Take cupcakes to your local fire department</p> <p>10</p>
<p>Decorate a gingerbread house</p> <p>eleven</p>	<p>Help wrap a Christmas present</p> <p>12</p>	<p>thirteen</p> <p>Leave a happy note for someone to find</p>	<p>Have a game night in your PJs</p> <p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Make paper snowflakes</p>
<p>Drink hot cocoa</p> <p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Make Christmas cards</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Bake Christmas cookies</p>	<p>Sing Christmas carols</p> <p>19</p>	<p>twenty</p> <p>Take a family photo in front of the Christmas tree</p>
<p>Read your favorite Christmas story</p> <p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Take a car tour of your local light displays</p>	<p>Deliver Christmas cards to your neighbors</p> <p>23</p>	<p>twenty-four</p> <p>Watch or attend a Christmas Eve service</p>	<p>Read the Nativity story</p> <p>25</p>



NOVEMBER-Hamilton Union Happenings



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Room Use (FH) - 7:00PM Bible 101 Study (L)- 7:00PM	2 Choir Prac- tice-7:00PM	3 Office Closed	4 End of Life Session (L)- 10:00AM
5 Sunday Wor- ship Service- 10:00AM	6 Making Connec- tions Bible Study Resumes (Z) 1:00PM	7 PW Coordinat- ing Team- (L)- 9:30AM Session Meeting (Z)-7:00PM	8 Room Use (FH) - 7:00PM Bible 101 Study (L)- 7:00PM	9 Good News Deadline Choir Practice- 7:00PM	10 Office Closed	11
12 Sunday Wor- ship Service- 10:00AM	13 Making Con- nections Bible Study Resumes (Z) 1:00PM Communications Meeting (Z)7:00PM	14 PW Circle Meeting (L)- 10:30AM	15 Room Use (FH) - 7:00PM Bible 101 Study (L)- 7:00PM	16 Deacons Meeting (Z) -3:00PM Miss.Team Food Bank- 5:00p Choir Practice-7:00P	17 Office Closed	18
19 Sunday Wor- ship Service- 10:00AM Mitten Tree collect. begins	20 Making Connections Bible Study (Z) 1:00PM Mission Team Meet- ing (Z)-7:00PM Property Meeting- 7:30PM	21	22 Room Use (FH)- 7:00PM	23 HAPPY THANKSGIV- ING! (Office Closed)	24 Office Closed	25
26 1st Sun- day of Advent Sunday Wor- ship Service- 10:00AM (\$0.02 a meal col- lection)	27 Making Connec- tions Bible Study Resumes (Z) 1:00PM	28 Food & Faith hosted by HUPC (CM)- 6:00PM	29 Room Use (FH)- 7:00PM Bible 101 Study (L)- 7:00PM Worship & CL Meeting (Z)- 7:15PM	30 Choir Prac- tice-7:00PM		30

KEY-	(Z)- Zoom (FH)- Fellow- ship Hall (CM)- Cam- pus Ministry	(L)- Lounge (C)- Conference Room (S)- Sanctuary	(QR)- Quiet Room (PL)- Parking Lot	(Z)- Zoom (FH)- Fellow- ship Hall	
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DECEMBER-DRAFT-Hamilton Union Happenings



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31					1 Office Closed	2
3 Choir Rehearsal-9:30AM Sunday Worship Service-10:00AM * Decorate* Ecumen. Caroling (CTK)-4:00	4 Making Connections Bible Study (Z) 1:00PM	5	6 Room Use (FH)- 7:00PM Bible 101 Study (L)- 7:00PM	7 Good News Deadline Choir Practice- 7:00PM	8 Office Closed	9
10 Choir Rehearsal-9:30AM Sunday Worship Service-10:00AM	11 Making Connections Bible Study (Z) 1:00PM Communications Meeting (Z) 7:00PM	12 PW Christmas Luncheon (FH & L)-10:30AM	13 Room Use (FH)- 7:00PM	14 200th Ann. Meeting (Z) 10:00AM Choir Practice-7:00PM Good News Deadline	15 Office Closed	16
17 Choir Rehearsal-9:30AM Sunday Worship Service-10:00AM Longest Night Service-4:00PM	18 Making Connections Bible Study (Z) 1:00PM Property Team Meeting (Z)- 7:00PM	19	20	21 Choir Practice- 7:00PM Miss.Team Food Bank- 5:00p	22 Office Closed	23
24 Contemporary & Casual Service-10:00AM Candlelight Service-4:00PM	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS!! (Office Closed)	26	27 Worship & Cong. Life Meeting (Z)-7:15PM	28	29	30
KEY-	(Z)- Zoom (FH)- Fellowship Hall (CTK)- Christ the King Church	(L)- Lounge (C)- Conference Room (S)- Sanctuary	(QR)- Quiet Room (PL)- Parking Lot	(Z)- Zoom (FH)- Fellowship Hall	(UA) University of Albany Interfaith Center	

HAMILTON UNION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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Change Service Requested

Dated Material – Please Deliver Promptly.

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Rev. Kyle Delhagen, Pastor
Kim Matthews, Administrative Assistant
Carol Scott, Organist & Choir Director
Rae Rau, Director of Handbell Choir

Newsletter deadline for the
December issue is
Thursday, November 9

GOOD NEWS



Published monthly by the Session, and is available electronically on our website. Copies are also mailed to select church family households, students away from home, and others.

Kim Matthews, Editor

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