

Worship - Sunday 10 AM
Sunday School - during worship
(Sep-Jun)

Twins Talk

December 2023

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Pastor's Corner

And so it happens, that term appears: Lake Effect!! I have learned that term is almost unknown to most people outside our area. When known, those folks assume we live in barren tundra with only wind and white!

Sometimes it feels that way. May I suggest when it feels cold and snowy you bundle up, go outside and listen to nature.

Sometimes she has a wind with her, but sometimes, when we are blessed, she is silent. Soft, quiet, beautiful.

Tis the season, listen for the silence! Happy Winter!

Advent approaches: the new liturgical year appears, and we are graced with a new beginning! We embark on a journey so many have taken before and yet is new and refreshed, the anticipation of the Christ Child's birth!

"Advent" means "coming or arrival." During the season of Advent, we celebrate Christ's coming into the world and watch with expectant hope for his coming again. In Advent we wait for the One who has already come.

The four weeks of Advent present an opportunity for our discernment and personal reflection, as we consider how his arrival has shaped us and if, when, and how he might join with us again.

We will celebrate Advent, embracing the theme "How Does a Weary World Rejoice?" Bonnie Tryon, Janet Stengel and I will explore how we might create and feel the joy of the season in the face of a world and reality touched by violence, hurt and doubt.

It is in this season we begin again, recognizing that our love for each other is the key to unlocking the door of possibility that Jesus came and has in fact come again.

Please join us for our Advent celebration services each Sunday at 10am and Christmas Eve at 5pm.

Steve

"No one has ever seen God; but if we love each other, God lives in us!" 1 John 4:12

**Nominating Committee
Recommendation Vote**

**Sunday, December 10
Immediately following worship**

Election of Elders and Deacons

**Congregational
Meeting**



**Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service**

DECEMBER 24 - 5:00 PM



Christmas Pageant Sunday December 17 at 10 am



Are you a king, a shepherd, an animal or angel? You might be surprised. Come join our annual no-rehearsal production and find out. The more the merrier!

Annual Advent Gathering

Date: Wednesday, December 13

Place: Church Fellowship Hall

Time: 5:30 pm

Dinner: Bring a dish to pass

All are Welcome – Bring a Friend!



Share the friendship, enjoy a mouth-watering buffet of food, and listen to the quiet telling of the Nativity in candles. Truly a special night.



Buchanan Earns 3rd SUNY Athletic Conference Weekly Award of the Season

October 30, 2023 – On Monday, *Ella Buchanan* was named the SUNYAC Field Hockey Defensive Athlete of the Week. This is her third time earning this weekly honor for the 2023 season.



In just one game of work last week, Buchanan totaled 11 saves and allowed one goal in a 1-0 loss to Geneseo. She saved over 91% of the shots faced in the match and kept the Golden Eagles close throughout.

She currently leads the SUNYAC with a .835 saves percentage to go with totals of 91 saves, 1.36 goals against average, and three shutouts.



"I'm a king in the living Nativity. I need some gold and a camel by Friday."



**You Make
Us Proud!**



**Boy
Scouts**

Throughout some rainy weekends in October, Caedyn Rowlands and a crew of helpers finished the physical portion of her Eagle Scout project by adding a handicap walk and patio to the Holland Patent village park.

Many of you know Caedyn from her help with our nursery during worship. She and Eagle Scout brother, Collin, are both active members of Scouts BSA that meet in our church. You'll remember our church benefited from plaster fixes and a beautiful coat of paint in our fellowship hall earlier this year by James Houck. Now we have a nice addition to the park right outside our fellowship hall. We are certainly grateful to have active troops in our area and the scout leaders who make them possible.

As with all Eagle Scout projects, it takes donations from the community and manual labor of fellow scouts and their families. We join Caedyn in thanking Pinkos Landscaping, Olney's Flowers, and Foote Excavating for their contribution of equipment and materials for the build, and Barb Daly who was the impetus behind the project.

Now Caedyn has a stack of paperwork to finish, but the Eagle rank is within sight!



**Christmas Cookies
For Shut-Ins
Sunday, December 10**

Deacons will be packing Christmas cookies for shut-ins on Sunday, December 10th after worship. We have nearly 20 plates to make up and would greatly appreciate donations of cookies, chocolates, or other candy. If you'd like to contribute but can't, come on the 10th, call/text Carol Beasley at 315-794-2124 for other arrangements. Thank You.

**UPCOMING
EVENTS**

Check website "twinchurches.org" for a complete calendar of events.

Worship Schedule

- Dec 3** Steve Vance – 1st Sunday of Advent, communion
- Dec 10** Bonnie Tryon
- Dec 17** Steve Vance – Pageant Sunday
- Dec 24** Janet Stengel – Morning Worship at 10 am
- Dec 24** Steve Vance – Christmas Eve at 5 pm

Events

- Dec 2** Park Coffee House – Local Favorites
- Dec 3** Foothills Christmas presents to church
- Dec 3** Mission Committee meeting following worship
- Dec 10** Congregational Meeting–Nominating Com Report
- Dec 10** Deacons Christmas Cookies
- Dec 13** Advent Gathering – 5:30 pm
- Dec 17** Session Meeting following worship



December

- 1 David Wynne
- 3 Brett Hoffman
- 4 Laura Grenier
- Karl Wervovitz
- 9 Wendy Seifried
- 11 Elizabeth Condrey-Pitlyk
- 12 Pete Rose
- Joey & Christy Rowlands (twins)
- 13 Gaby McGhee
- 14 Elizabeth (Moseman) Hobson
- 15 Tanya Erway
- Danise Moseman
- 17 Hannah Ferris
- John Wall
- 20 Thomas Taubert
- 26 Jordan Dziekan
- Jon Dziekan
- 27 Merritt Howard
- Marsha Thayer
- 28 Artis Finn
- 29 Trevor Harter
- 30 Marilyn Racha



SHARE THE JOY

Foothills Rural Community Ministry is always in need of volunteers, but especially at Christmas time when they bring love, community, and the holidays to almost 200 local families. From wrapping presents, to packing Christmas bags, to sorting food baskets. If you have care in your heart and time in your calendar, why not spend a few hours to **SHARE THE JOY**. Call them at 315-865-5854 or email frmin@gmail.com.



December 2023

- Dec 3** - Artie Finn - 1st Sunday of Advent
- Dec 10** - Janet Lanning
- Dec 17** - Betsy Allen - Pageant Sunday
- Dec 24** - Volunteers - Christmas Eve
- Dec 31** - Bonnie Churcher - New Year's Eve

For information contact Janet Lanning:
Phone: 315-941-7409 Email: jlasc@me.com

Prayers are asked for:

- Betsy and Ken Allen as Ken continues to have frequent hospitalizations and setbacks in his efforts to gain strength.
- Brenda Castle's husband, Paul, who is having recurrent problems with his feet.
- Janet Broadbent who had a corneal transplant and is recovering at home. Prayers that the surgery restores some vision.
- Nancy Baum who is now recovering at home following hip surgery.
- Kevin Gauthier (Shawn Lemieux's husband) as he prepares for a promotional civil service exam.

Joys are shared for:

- Gaby McGhee who is joyful that her son, Doug, accomplished his adventure of climbing to the base camp of Mt. Everest in spite of earthquakes, age, and diabetes.
- Muriel Werbovetz expressed how thankful their family is that their son, Karl in Ohio, is fine following a very serious auto accident.
- Jeff Larry who is finally free of his "necklace" (otherwise known as a cervical collar). He expressed his thanks for all of the prayers as he recovered from a serious spine fracture. And an added joy that he was able to bowl a 160 and a 200 game!
- Dwight Putnam who is finally feeling better after lasting effects from COVID.
- Vicky and Jim Allen who had a surprise Thanksgiving visit from daughter, Kerkira.

How They Forecast a Cold Winter

One day in early September the chief of a Native American tribe was asked by his tribal elders if the winter was going to be cold or mild. The chief asked his medicine man, but he too had lost touch with the reading signs from the natural world around the Great Lakes.

In truth, neither of them had any idea about how to predict the coming winter. However, the chief decided to take a modern approach, and the chief rang the National Weather Service in Gaylord Michigan. 'Yes, it is going to be a cold winter,' the meteorological officer told the chief. Consequently, he went back to his tribe and told the men to collect plenty of firewood.

A fortnight later the chief called the Weather Service and asked for an update. 'Are you still forecasting a cold winter?' he asked.

'Yes, very cold', the weather officer told him.

As a result of this brief conversation the chief went back to the tribe and told his people to collect every bit of wood they could find.

A month later the chief called the National Weather Service once more and asked about the coming winter. 'Yes,' he was told, 'it is going to be one of the coldest winters ever.'

'How can you be so sure?' the chief asked.

The weatherman replied: 'Because the Native Americans of the Great Lakes are collecting wood like crazy.'