

# The Portage Presbyterian



A Newsletter for The Portage Presbyterian Family

November 2017

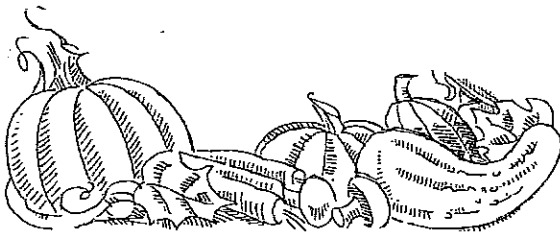
## Hangings of the Greens

### ALL SAINTS' SERVICE - NOVEMBER 5

On Sunday, November 5 the PPC community will come together during our Sunday morning worship service to remember and celebrate the lives of those who have gone on to God's Eternal Kingdom during this past year.

This our annual opportunity to share song, prayer and support as we join with family members in this very special time.

We hope that you will plan on sharing this time with us on Sunday, November 5 @ 10:05 a.m.

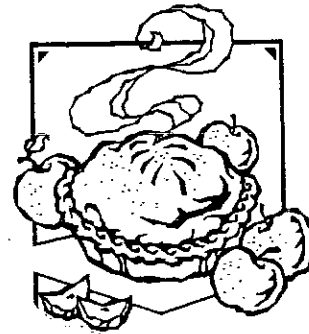


### STEWARDSHIP DRIVE

Our stewardship drive, "Bearing Fruit for Jesus" ended Sunday, October 29 with a wonderful celebration brunch of egg bake, fruit, breads, muffins, coffee cake, cheese tray plus orange juice, milk and coffee. If you weren't there you missed a great meal!

If you have not returned your "My/Our Commitment For The Lord" card you may put it in the collection plate on Sunday or mail it to the church office. There are extra forms on the table in Parry Hall.

Thank you from the Mission Stewardship Committee.



### HARVEST DINNER ALMOST HERE

It's almost time for the Harvest dinner, an annual event that fills the church with the aroma of roast turkey and all the trimmings. **It will be served on November 11 from 4:30-7:00PM.** Tickets will be available at the door and carryouts will be available. The menu for the dinner includes turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, dressing, squash, cranberries, dinner rolls, beverage and a variety of homemade pies.

There are signup sheets in Parry Hall for pies and for helpers needed at a variety of workstations: kitchen for preparation and serving, kitchen clean up and dining room. The names of those responsible for the various areas are on the sign up sheets, so contact the person in charge if you have questions. If you wish to sign up to help or to bring pies and can't make it to church, please call Nancy Schaper.

*The Harvest Dinner is a church event which the Event's Committee cannot do by themselves. We need all your help to make it a success.* If you have any questions call Donna Mohr or Nancy Schaper.

Cost of the dinner will be \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children ages 5-12. Children under 5 dine at no cost with their family. Come join us for a wonderful meal. **Carry outs are available if you come between 4:30 and 7:00 P.M.**



## UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Wednesday, November 1

6:05 p.m. - "Wed Nite @ PPC" Worship

Sunday, November 5, 2017

The 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

10:05 a.m. - Traditional Worship  
"All Saints Sunday"

Wednesday, November 8

6:05 p.m. - "Wed Nite @ PPC" Worship

Sunday, November 12, 2017

The 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

10:05 a.m. - "Informal" Worship Service

Wednesday, November 15

6:05 p.m. - "Wed Nite @ PPC" Worship

Sunday, November 19, 2017

The 24th Sunday after Pentecost

10:05 a.m. - Traditional Worship

Wednesday, November 18

There will be NO Wed Nite Worship Tonight!

Sunday, November 26, 2017

Christ The King Sunday

10:05 a.m. - Traditional Worship

Wednesday, November 29

6:05 p.m. - "Wed Nite @ PPC" Worship

Sunday, December 3, 2017

The First Sunday in Advent

10:05 a.m. - "Greening of the Church" Worship  
Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Wednesday, December 6

6:05 p.m. - "Wed Nite @ PPC" Worship  
Celebration of the Lord's Supper

### "EMAIL INFO" FOR PPC OFFICES

To reach Pastor Dave by email:  
[pastordave@portagepresbyterian.com](mailto:pastordave@portagepresbyterian.com)

To reach the church office by email:  
[office@portagepresbyterian.com](mailto:office@portagepresbyterian.com)



### THE PORTAGE PRESBYTERIAN

Is published monthly by the

Portage Presbyterian Church

120 West Pleasant Street, P.O. Box 222

Portage, WI 53901

Phone & Fax Line: - 608-742-6006

Portage Presbyterian Church E-mail Addresses

Pastor - [pastordave@portagepresbyterian.com](mailto:pastordave@portagepresbyterian.com)

Church Office - [office@portagepresbyterian.com](mailto:office@portagepresbyterian.com)

Portage Presbyterian Church Website Address

[www.portagepresbyterianchurch.com](http://www.portagepresbyterianchurch.com)

Editor -- Kathryn Curtis






Pastor - The Rev. David J. Hankins

**Church Office Hours**  
 Monday – 10:00am – 12:00pm  
 Tuesday – Office Closed  
 Wednesday – 8:00am – 1:00pm  
 Thursday – Office Closed  
 Friday – 8:00am – 1:00pm

# November 2017



November 11

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>5</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday After Pentecost 8:45 a.m. Bible Study, Bell Tower Room 9:30am Sunday Class 10:05am Traditional Worship	<b>6</b> 3:30pm ACA, WC 6:00pm Bell Choir, Parry Hall 7:00pm Guitar Lessons, Parry Hall	<b>7</b> 10:00am Region 5 Prayer Group, WC	<b>8</b> 9:30am Art Group, WC 5:00pm Light Snack 5:30pm Lord's Lamb's 6:05pm Worship 6:30pm Chancel Choir 6:35pm Confirmation 7:30pm Worship Jam	<b>9</b> 9:00am – 4:00pm Interim Training, Fellowship/ Dining Room 6:00pm Session Meeting, WC	<b>3</b> 9:30am-3:00pm Creative Arts Festival	<b>4</b> 9:00am Women's Association at Dino's
<b>12</b> 14 <sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost 1:00pm Region 5 Youth at Oxford 9:30am Sunday Class 10:05am Informal Worship	<b>13</b> 6:00pm Bell Choir, Parry Hall 7:00pm Guitar Lessons, Parry Hall	<b>14</b> 9:00am-3:00pm John Knox Presbytery in Cottage Grove	<b>15</b> 9:30am Art Group, WC 5:00pm Light Snack 5:30pm Lord's Lamb's 6:05pm Worship 6:30pm Chancel Choir 6:35pm Confirmation 7:30pm Worship Jam	<b>16</b> 6:00pm Session Meeting, WC	<b>10</b> December Newsletter Articles Due in Office	<b>11</b> 4:00-7:00 p.m. Harvest Dinner, Fellowship Hall
<b>19</b> 15 <sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost 8:45 a.m. Bible Study, Bell Tower Room 9:30am Sunday Class 10:05am Traditional Worship	<b>20</b>  10:00am Worship Service at Tivoli 6:00pm Bell Choir, Parry Hall Meals On Wheels	<b>21</b>  11:00am "Late For Breakfast" at Dino's Meals On Wheels	<b>22</b> No Worship service tonight  Meals On Wheels	<b>23</b> Happy Thanksgiving  Meals On Wheels	<b>24</b>  Meals On Wheels December 1	<b>25</b> December 2 10:30 am – 1:00 pm Holiday House
<b>26</b> 16 <sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost 10:05am Traditional Worship	<b>27</b> 5:00-6:30pm Sharing Supper at Bartels Middle School	<b>28</b> Meals On Wheels	<b>29</b> 9:30am Art Group, WC 5:00pm Light Snack 5:30pm Lord's Lamb's 6:05pm Worship 6:30pm Chancel Choir	<b>30</b> Meals On Wheels 3	<b>December 1</b>	<b>December 2</b> 10:30 am – 1:00 pm Holiday House

## CHILI DUMP

During the Holiday Parade on November 24 the Event's Committee will have a stand at the Chamber Mall selling chili to warm your body and soul. We need your help to make this a success. We are asking you to make a gallon or so of chili and have it to the church by Wednesday morning, November 22. We will then pour all of the chili together and serve it nice and warm at the parade.

There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board in Perry Hall for those who wish to donate chili. We figure we will need at least twelve gallons of chili. In the past years it has been cold and the warm chili was a huge success. If you have any questions please contact Nancy Schaper.

*BIRTHDAYS*

## PPC's "ADOPT A KETTLE"

Once again PPC has answered the call of the Salvation Army to "ring the bells" for their annual Kettle Drive in Portage.

We have "Adopted" a Kettle" at Festival Foods on November 18 from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM. We are doing it early again this year so it doesn't interfere with everyone's holiday preparation.

Please sign up on the sheet that is posted on the bulletin board in Parry Hall. If you have any questions contact Nancy Schaper.



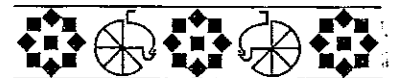
## SQUASH PARTY

Thanks to all of you who came and helped at our "squash party" on October 9. Rosemary Minnema, Edith McElroy, Kathy Raimer, Deb Capener, Chris Sechtig, Kevin Foster, Rhys and Laura Brenner and Liz Bellmore enjoyed the fun!! special thank you to Nick Hankins who "halved" 08 squash. We made 105.5 pounds of squash for the Harvest Dinner.



## FOOD PANTRY

A wonderful mission of our church is the food pantry. As the weather gets colder and gardens freeze up, more people are in need of help at the food pantry. Our basket is always out for donations. A couple items always needed are jelly in plastic jars, peanut butter, tuna, hamburger helper, tomato and chicken noodle soup, Manwich, canned vegetables spaghetti noodles and spaghetti sauce. So far this year our church has donated 1,540.5 pounds of food. That is just an awesome amount. Keep up the good work.



## PRODUCE DAYS

Our produce/bake sale days were a great success. Thanks to all who purchased and donated the produce and baked goods. Our mission was to earn enough money to purchase food for our celebration brunch and we succeeded.

When you plant your garden in the spring, set aside an area for the produce days at the church.

Thanks so much from the Mission Stewardship Committee.

# Pastor's Page

Being the season of "giving thanks" I offer these verses from the Apostle's Paul writings to the Philippians. I am grateful for the privilege of serving with you in the work and ministry to which God calls and sends us. And I pray that God will continue to work in and through and with us to proclaim the "good news" here and everywhere.

*<sup>3</sup> I thank my God for you every time I think of you; <sup>4</sup> and every time I pray for you all, I pray with joy <sup>5</sup> because of the way in which you have helped me in the work of the gospel from the very first day until now. <sup>6</sup> And so I am sure that God, who began this good work in you, will carry it on until it is finished on the Day of Christ Jesus. <sup>7</sup> You are always in my heart! And so it is only right for me to feel as I do about you. For you have all shared with me in this privilege that God has given me, ... <sup>8</sup> God is my witness that I tell the truth when I say that my deep feeling for you all comes from the heart of Christ Jesus himself.*

*<sup>9</sup> I pray that your love will keep on growing more and more, together with true knowledge and perfect judgment, <sup>10</sup> so that you will be able to choose what is best. Then you will be free from all impurity and blame on the Day of Christ. <sup>11</sup> Your lives will be filled with the truly good qualities which only Jesus Christ can produce, for the glory and praise of God.*

Have a blessed Thanksgiving!

What you  
ARE Thankful  
for?



## November

### A.C.T.S./ HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH @ PPC

**A.C.T.S.** - "After Confirmation Talks (and) Service" is a group of "high school age" young people who come together for discussion, service, mission and fun!

ANY YOUNG PERSON is welcome and encouraged to participate - there is no membership fee & there is no form to sign. Just come and hang out as we explore ways in which God is at work in our lives and ways in which we can share God's good news with those around us.

In October we had staff members from River Haven Homeless Shelter come to one of our meetings. They talked about homelessness in Portage and how River Haven helps to make a difference.

We decided that we would explore ways in which we can help River Haven, including fundraisers and helping to pack "homeless bags" to be distributed.

In November and December we are planning to "ring bells" for the Salvation Army. Also the Region 5 Presbyterian Churches are having a "youth gathering" on Sunday, November 12 @ 1:00 p.m. in Oxford. We will be putting together "blizzard kits" for the elderly homebound as well as having a bonfire and goodies together.

We are meeting together on the *2nd and 4th Wednesdays @ 6:35 p.m.* Come and join us!!!

Our **next meeting** time will be on **Wednesday, November 8 @ 6:35 p.m.**

We would enjoy having you share the journey with us!

Be sure to check out the **ACTS@PPC** Facebook page too!!!

Questions? Contact Pastor Dave.

### THE CONFIRMATION CLASS ...

PPC'S Confirmation Class has started their journey!

Our Confirmation Class includes: *Braden Schaller, Elizabeth Martens and Ben O'Rourke.*

We are meeting together every other week @ 6:35 p.m. During our "off week" we have "preparation work" sent to us by Pastor Dave for the next class time together.

Be sure to watch the PPC Facebook page and the PPC Facebook "Group" page.

If you know of any young person, 7th grade or older, who would like to be a part of this group - please contact Pastor Dave

Please be sure to keep these young people in your prayers as they continue this faith journey.

### "SUNDAY MORNING" BIBLE STUDY

The Rev. Dr. Carol Hermann will be leading "Bible Study" on the Gospel of Mark *on the 1st and 3rd Sundays* - beginning @ 8:45 in the morning (before Sunday morning worship).

In November, the Bible Study will be held on November 5 and 19 @ 8:45 a.m.

The Bible Study will *meet in the "Bell Tower Room"* near the Clark Street entrance.

If you would like more information, you can contact the Church Office or Rev. Hermann.

### MINISTRY AND WORSHIP @ TIVOLI

PPC is blessed to provide a monthly worship service at Tivoli.

We have found that our worship service is one of the better attended worship times – and that is great news!

*We are looking for additional people to come and help get people to and from the chapel.*

You will have the opportunity to share in a special worship experience as well as being able to interact with some very nice people. Chaplain Monica remarks how much the residents enjoy having people come and share worship with them.

If you could help with this ministry once in a while, contact Pastor Dave.

**NOTE!** We share worship on the

8 THIRD Monday in November - November 20th @ 10:00 a.m.



### "CHANCEL CHOIR" REHEARSALS

The Chancel Choir rehearses on Wednesday evenings @ 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall / Dining Room.

Anyone who enjoys singing and participating in the music ministry during worship is encouraged to come and be a part of this wonderful group.

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Judy Taylor.



### "HANDBELLS" CONTINUE TO RING!

PPC's Handbell Choir has its rehearsals on Mondays @ 6:00 p.m. in Parry Hall.

*Ringers of any age or skill level are welcome to come and be a part of this unique music ministry.*

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Kathy Hankins.



### "GUITAR LESSONS" CONTINUE

Those who are interested in learning the basics of playing the guitar are encouraged to join us on Monday nights @ 7:00 p.m. (EXCEPT for the last Monday of the month).

*We will be meeting in Parry Hall.*

Everyone is welcome!

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Pastor Dave.

### "INFORMAL" WORSHIP - NOVEMBER 12

There will be a change in the worship schedule for November!!!

Our *"informal" worship* experience will be shared on the 2nd Sunday - November 12.

The 3rd Sunday worship (November 19) will be a "traditional" worship service.

If you have any questions, please contact the Church Office.

### COUNTING "CAN TABS" - JANUARY, 2018

Perhaps you have read or heard about the efforts of our own Mercedes Alves who is collecting "can tabs" to be donated to the "Ronald McDonald House."

Mercedes decided that she would like to collect the "tabs" in memory of her big brother Gunner who was killed in a car accident. She also wants to donate these "tabs" to the "Ronald McDonald House" as a fund-raiser for the special ministry that they offer to families who have children in hospitals. Mercedes and her family were staying at the Madison "Ronald McDonald House" at the time of Gunner's accident.

Mercedes and her family are looking for volunteers to help "count the tabs" on Monday, January 15 in the basement of the City Hall.

If you can come and help "count the tabs" contact the Church Office and we will pass the word to Joe and Katie and Mercedes.

Come and help Mercedes as she seeks to make a difference for others.



In Memory of *Jack Polnow*, from  
Mark and Liz Bellmore  
Bill and Donna Mohr  
Bob and Patti Bryan

### "BRESE FUND FOR THE NEEDY"

Over 30 years ago, the Llewelyn Breese Fund for the Needy was established with a bequest. The will specified that the fund "... shall be held in trust and used for the benefit of any underprivileged children of the church."

The administration of this fund is entrusted to Ruling Elders Mark Bennett and Jerry Schneiter, who have been appointed by the Session, along with the Pastor Dave, who serves as the Chairperson.

If you are in need or have a suggestion of someone from the church who may need assistance of this type, please contact a committee member. All contacts are held in strictest confidence.



The "greening" or decorating of the church will be a little different this year.

Everyone is invited to come on *Sunday morning, December 3* (the First Sunday in Advent) for a pancake breakfast and to help decorate and prepare the sanctuary and church for the Advent and Christmas seasons.

We will start decorating @ 8:00 a.m. You may stop for breakfast at any time you like.

Then, we will stop our decorating to join together in our time of worship.

If we have decorating to finish, we will do so after the worship service.

Those of any age, skill level or decorating prowess are encouraged to come and share in this time together.

### EDUCATION MINISTRIES UPDATE!

PPC's Education Ministries are up and running!!!

Our "Sunday Morning" young person's class starts @ 9:30 a.m.

The "Wednesday Nite" class for young people will meet @ 5:30 p.m. This class then continues as we gather for an *interactive* worship experience we call "*Wed Nite Worship*" @ 6:05 p.m. Everyone is invited to share in this worship time.

Please be sure to invite friends to come and share in this great experience.

### "WED NITE" WORSHIP@ PPC

We offer a "*Wed Nite Worship*" experience beginning @ 6:05 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

This is an "interactive" worship experience for God's children "of all ages."

All are welcome!

Invite your friends and neighbors!

### TRY "SCRIP" - YOU'LL LOVE IT!

*Scrip Fundraising is here @ PPC!*

*And it is EASY!!!*

Scrip fundraising is a no selling program that enable members and friends of the Portage Presbyterian Church to participate in.

Scrip gift cards are the same gift cards you can purchase from the retailer. With over 300 of the Country's biggest brands, including grocery, department stores, gas stations, restaurants and home improvement and by planning ahead on everyday purchases the Women's Association will profit!

Examples of gift cards in our area are: *Festival Foods, Piggy Wiggly, Walmart, Walgreens, Subway, Cracker Barrel, BP Gas Stations, Kwik Trip, Mobil, Applebee's, Bath & Body Works, Amazon.....*and so many more.

Questions???? Contact Elaine Crammond at 742-3899 or 608 215-8899.

This is an ongoing fundraising program that will be available year round.

Consider our new approach and help us reach our mission goals!

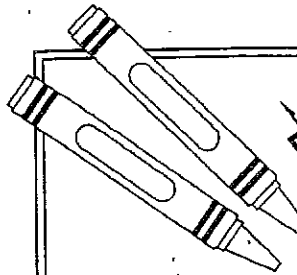
Order sheets are available in Parry Hall!



### CARD PARTY

On October 6 we hosted our last card party of the year to benefit our Yakutat mission. We had 40 people playing cards and served creamed turkey along with chips, bars and drinks. Thanks to the members of the Events Committee for providing the food and drinks and to Kathryn Curtis for her delicious banana bars. We also collected 77# of food for the food pantry. This has been a wonderful mission our church is providing and the people that come to play cards always remind us of that. We will use our \$1000.00 mission pledge this year to provide the Yakutat Presbyterian Church with a refurbished much needed computer and supplies. Our first card party of 1918 will be on January 28.



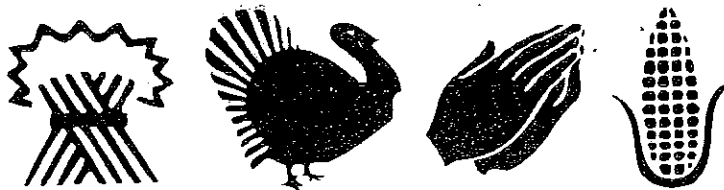


# PUZZLE

## GIVE THANKS TO GOD

God gives us many blessings every day. How can we thank him?

Directions: To complete the Bible verse below, follow the code and fill in the blanks.



A=1, B=2, C=3, D=4, E=5, F=6, G=7, H=8, I=9, J=10,  
 K=11, L=12, M=13, N=14, O=15, P=16, Q=17, R=18,  
 S=19, T=20, U=21, V=22, W=23, X=24, Y=25, Z=26.

" \_\_\_\_\_ will \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ name in \_\_\_\_\_  
 and \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_"

Answer: "I will praise God's name in song and glory him with  
 thanksgiving." Psalm 69:30, NIV

[KID1117B] **HARVEST DINNER NOV. 11**



The Portage Presbyterian Church  
120 W Pleasant Street  
PO Box 222  
Portage WI 53901

Non Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Portage WI 53901  
Permit No. 158

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

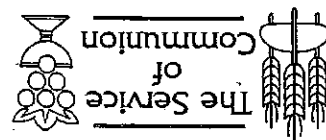
**Sunday Worship Service**  
10:05 a.m. Traditional Worship  
Third Sunday of Each Month is Informal Service  
Child Care Available  
Church Is Handicapped Accessible  
Everyone Invited!

**Wednesday Worship Service**  
6:05 p.m. Informal, Interactive Worship

**Mark your calendars for November 11<sup>th</sup>, which will be the Harvest Dinner**

The Presbyterian Women's annual Holiday House will be held on Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. A great selection of baked goods such as holiday cookies, bar, pies and snacks will be available for you to purchase for the holidays. Craft items will be found as well. A luncheon will be provided for \$5.00 which will feature chicken noodle soup and beef barley soup along with fresh vegetables, rolls and desserts. Please come and enjoy the food, fun, fellowship and the sound of Christmas Carols. If you are making some yummy baked goods you may bring them to the church on Friday, December 1 from 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Otherwise you may bring them to the church the day of the Holiday House beginning at 8:00 a.m. We would like them as early in the morning as possible. If you have any questions or would like to help in any way, please contact Elaine Crammond, Kathy Hankins or Donna Mohr.

You are encouraged to take time before each Communion to reflect on the meaning of the Lord's Supper for you, for PPC and for the world. The "Directory for Worship" notes that "in preparing to receive Christ in this Sacrament, the believer is to confess sin and brokenness, to seek reconciliation with God and neighbor, and to trust in Jesus Christ for cleansing and renewal." As Presbyterians, we believe that coming to the Lord's Table is not a right, but a privilege given to those who come in faith, repentance and love - the gifts of God for the people of God.



Sunday, December 3, 2017  
First Sunday in Advent  
@ 10:05 a.m.

Wednesday, December 6, 2017  
"Wed Nite" Worship  
@ 6:05 p.m.