



# The Portage Presbyterian Church

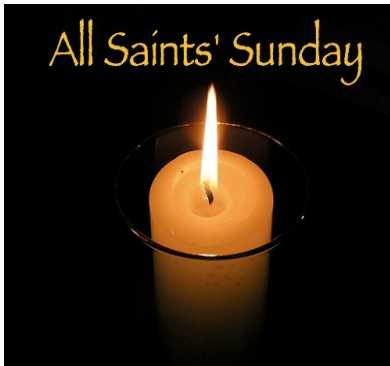
November, 2024

"The Church is a people - and we are the Church!"



Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ and peace!

## "All Saints Sunday" - November 3



On Sunday, November 3rd, the PPC community will gather with family and friends to "remember" and to "celebrate" the lives of those with whom we have journeyed - who have passed away over the past year.

Family and friends will be invited to "light candles" to give thanks to God for the lives shared.

The "All Saints Sunday" worship service will be held in the sanctuary. For those who may be unable to attend "in the sanctuary" we will do our "live video" of the service.

## "Harvest Dinner" - It's Almost Time!

Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 9 - for PPC's "**Harvest Dinner!**"

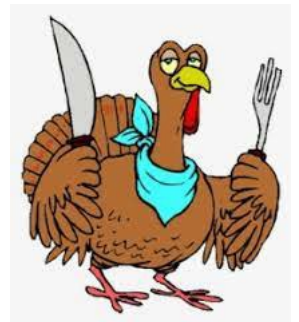
This year the Harvest Dinner will be a "Buffet Style Dinner" served in the Fellowship Hall.

The cost will be **\$15.00 for adults** and *\$7.00 for children under age 7.*

We will be serving our famous turkey dinner with all the fixings topped off with a slice of delicious pie. Dinners will also be available for "carry out." There will be no "Drive Thru meals" served this year.

We will be serving from 4:30-6:30 p.m.

If you would be interested in helping with the Harvest Dinner, please contact Donna Mohr.



## "Readers" for Advent and Christmas Eve

We are looking for "readers" who would like to participate in any of the Advent - Christmas Eve - Christmas Day worship services.

If you would be interested - please indicate on the "sign up sheet" on the kiosk in Parry Hall - or contact Pastor Dave.

## Community "Thanksgiving Worship"

The Portage Presbyterian Church will be joining together with the Bethlehem Lutheran and Portage United Methodist churches for a "Community Thanksgiving Worship" experience - on Sunday, November 24 - beginning @ 9:30 a.m. - @ the Bethlehem Lutheran Church (Hwy 33 East). Pastor KwangYu Lee, Pastor Jaime Benson and Pastor Dave will all be participating in the worship service. We will also be celebrating the Lord's Supper as a part of this worship service.

Monetary donations will be collected for the Portage Food Pantry.

There will also be a "combined choir" for those interested. Rehearsal will be held on November 24 @ 8:30 a.m. at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. If you are interested, contact Pastor Dave and he will get the music to you.

## "Decorating" The Church For Advent

We will be "decorating the Church" for Advent - on Saturday, November 30 - beginning @ 9:00 a.m.

All ages and skill levels are encouraged to come to help get everything ready. Hope to see you there!

## "Special Music" - During Advent & Christmas?



Anyone "out there" who may be interested in sharing "Special Music" during Advent and Christmas?

This could be "vocal" - "instrumental" - "ensemble" or "other ideas" you may have!

Contact Pastor Dave if you are interested - or have questions!

We are seeking folks who may be interested in playing "Handbells" during Advent and Christmas this year.

Whether you have "rang bells" before - or would just like to give it a try - **YOU** are welcome to be a part of this ministry.

*We will need to find a time for rehearsals beginning in November.*

So, if you are interested - or have questions, please contact Kathy Hankins (608-742-2752) or email ([dknshankins@charter.net](mailto:dknshankins@charter.net)).



## PPC's Sunday Worship - also on "YouTube"

Here's "another option" for "online" worship experiences!  
You can go to the PPC "YouTube" Channel!

Here's the "web" information -

<https://www.youtube.com/@portagepresbyterianchurch2652>

The videos on "YouTube" are *not live streamed* -  
they are added to the PPC YouTube Channel during the following week.

Just another way to extend our worship and fellowship  
to our community and world.

## Upcoming Worship Services



Sunday, November 3 - "Traditional" Worship Service - 10:05 a.m.

*The Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost*

*"All Saints Sunday"*

Sunday, November 10 - "Traditional" Worship Service - 10:05 a.m.

*The Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost*

*Mark 12:38-44*

Sunday, November 17 - Worship Service - 10:05 a.m.

*The Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost*

Sunday, November 24 - "Community Thanksgiving" Worship Service - **9:30 a.m.**

PPC joining together with Bethlehem Lutheran and Portage United Methodist

**@ Bethlehem Lutheran Church - Hwy 33 East**

Sunday, December 1 - "Greening of the Church" Worship Service - 10:05 a.m.

*The First Sunday of Advent*

*We will share the "Lord's Supper" during the service.*

IF you would like to receive the "weekly worship materials" -  
the Sunday Worship Bulletin & Children's Bulletin -  
by email- please contact Pastor Dave.

"Bells Will Be Ringing" and You Can Help!

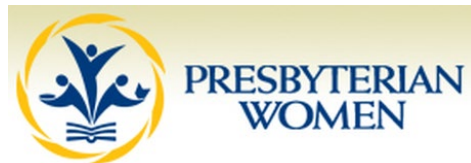
Once again PPC has answered the call of the Salvation Army to "ring the bells" for their annual Kettle Drive in Portage. We have "Adopted" a Kettle" at Festival Foods on Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> from 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM. There will be a "sign up sheet" on the kiosk in Parry Hall or contact Donna Mohr.

Yes, It Will Be "CHILI" During The Holiday Parade!

The Holiday Parade will be happening on November 29<sup>th</sup>, and once again the Events Committee will have a stand at the Chamber Mall selling chili (\$2.00 / bowl) to warm your body and soul. We need your help to make this a success.

We are looking for volunteers to "make a batch of chili" for this event.

There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board in Parry Hall for those who wish to donate chili or you can call Nancy at 608-742-7242.



Our annual Holiday House will be held on Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 - 11:00 in Parry Hall.

We will be *selling our famous chicken noodle and beef barley soups* in quart jars. We also will have a variety of baked goods for purchase. We will be looking for donations of baked goods so a sign up sheet will be posted in Parry Hall or you can call *Donna Mohr or Elaine Crammond*. Our proceeds are given to our year end donations to various places in our community.

"Scrip" orders should be turned in to Elaine Crammond no later than Sunday, November 10. Order forms are on the table in Parry Hall.

Our popular **Mission Chicken Soup Mix** is always available for purchase on Sundays in the sanctuary, in the church office during open hours, or by contacting Glenda Day. If you've never tried it, give it a try. You won't be disappointed!

Our next meeting will be Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> - at 9:00 a.m. - @ Canape Sandwiches.

Sunday Morning "Video" Volunteers

We are looking for a few more folks to be "trained" to help provide the "live Sunday morning videos"!!!

If you have questions about doing the video, please contact Pastor Dave or any of those who have been trained.

If you would like to be a part of this worship ministry, please contact Pastor Dave.

## Sunday Morning "Screen" Volunteers

In addition to our "Livestream" Video opportunities on Sunday mornings, we are also seeking "volunteers" who may be interested in operating the "projection screens" we use on Sundays.

You will be "trained" to use the computer which enables the screens to be used.

*If this is something in which you may be interested (or would like more information) - please contact Pastor Dave.*

## From the "Deacons"

Just a reminder - all "loose offerings" (*coins and cash*) - on "Communion Sundays" - will be given to the Deacons to help support their ministries to and through this church community.



We are looking for "**readers**" for the "Greening of the Church" worship service on Sunday, December 1.

If you would like to participate - please contact Pastor Dave by Sun, November 10.



Advent Devotionals will be available beginning on November 17th. You may pick them up on Sunday mornings in Parry Hall. Or you may stop by the Church Office during the week.

If you would like to have a devotional mailed to you, just contact the Church Office.

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## "Reverse" Advent Calendar

You are invited to participate in an Advent experience unlike any other -  
a **"Reverse" Advent Calendar!**

During each day of Advent, the "calendar" will have an item which will be donated  
to the Portage Food Pantry.

You may collect your items and drop them off at the church during the week - or you may  
choose to wait and bring your items all at one time.

We will be collecting "food items" **until December 24 - Christmas Eve.**

We will have a "special dedication" of our Advent gifts on Christmas Eve.

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Dave.

The **"Reverse Advent Calendar"** will be available at the church by the first Sunday of  
Advent (*December 1*) and will also be included with the December newsletter.



Upcoming dates for "Stocking Shelves @ the Food Pantry" will be **Wednesday, November 20** and **Wednesday, November 27** (Bellmore Family).

We usually begin @ 5:00 p.m. Volunteers are always welcome to come and help this  
community resource provide a necessary program for those in need in our community. **Please contact Pastor Dave if you are planning to come and help, in case there is a change in the schedule.** *Come and help make a difference in the community!*

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Just a reminder - there is a "Little Food Pantry" in front of Westminster Center.  
Anyone can place items in this box - and we receive donations from PPC folks as well as  
those from the community..Please feel free to provide dry goods and non perishables not  
affected by the temperature.



New Directions 4-H club is a very active group of young people from the area that meet together to share ideas, work on projects and learn great leadership skills.

The New Directions 4-H club meets @ PPC on the 3rd Sunday of each month, beginning @ 4:00 p.m.

PPC is pleased to be able to support the efforts of 4-H and the New Directions Club by offering a meeting space and support for their good work.

**Jen Martens** serves as the advisor for the New Directions Club.



The Scouts have some fun and exciting things planned!

Plans are being made for "upcoming events and activities" such as

- Geocaching
- "Rake A Diifference"
- Nuclear Science Merit Badge
  - Aviation Merit Badge
  - Highway Clean Up
  - Hikes and Outings
  - "Winter Adventures"
  - Pinewood Derby
- "Crossover" for Webelos
- Helping with a fund raiser at the International Crane Foundation

As you can see - the Cub Scouts Pack and Scout Troop are busy!

**Be sure to keep the Scouts and their leaders in your prayers!**

Important "Information and Activities" Around Portage



"Kwik Trip" Car Wash Cards are still available!  
For \$36.00 / card, you will receive 5 "Ultimate" car washes  
(normally a cost of \$50.00)  
If you would like to purchase a "Kwik Trip Car Wash Card" -  
contact Pastor Dave.



To Contact The Portage Presbyterian Church

Phone: 608-742-6006

Church Office email: office@portagepresbyterian.com

Pastor Dave email: pastordave@portagepresbyterian.com

Website: www.portagepresbyterian.com

Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/Portage-Presbyterian-Church-155581354519952

YouTube Channel: https://www.youtube.com/@portagepresbyterianchurch2652



It is "easy" **to make a "financial" offering**  
for the work and ministry here @ Portage Presbyterian Church

You may choose to ....



Mail it to the Church Office

or

Drop it in the "mail slot"



or



Use the "online giving" option on "PPC's Website"

or

scan the "QR Code" which will take you to the "Online Giving" Portal



*Your financial support for the work and ministry of God in and through the  
Portage Presbyterian Church is greatly appreciated!*





## PPC's Church Officers

Serving God and God's People  
With "Energy, Intelligence, Imagination and Love"

### Ruling Elders / Session

Moderator - Pastor Dave Hankins

Clerk of Session - Alex Harvey

Alex Harvey (2024)

Larry Day (2025)

Tara Bandekow (2026)

Rhys Brenner (2024)

Jarrett Foster (2025)

Nancy Beasley (2026)

Lee Roundy (2024)

Nancy Schaper (2025)

Kathy Raimer (2026)

### Deacons

Moderator of Deacons - Peggy Alf-Sechtig

Secretary - Liz Bellmore

Treasurer - Joyce Meredith

Tammy Foster (2024)

Peggy Alf (2025)

Glenda Day (2026)

Lynne Warren (2024)

Joyce Meredith (2025)

Vickie Kastner (2026)

Liz Bellmore (2025)

Joyce Oehlhof (2026)



*The church is a people;  
we are the church!*