



# The Portage Presbyterian Church

January, 2025

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



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

## Annual Meeting - January 26 - in Fellowship Hall

We will be sharing our "Annual Congregational Meeting" on Sunday, January 26. our "meeting and worship" will take place in the Fellowship Hall for this Sunday!

And we will have "refreshments" available!

The Annual Meeting is a time to reflect on the previous year and an opportunity to "look ahead" at the new year.

Reports from the various committees and organizations of the church will be shared - as will the 2025 Budget.

We will also be seeking "congregational members" to serve on the 2025 Nominating Committee.

Any reports to be included in the 2025 Annual Meeting Packet - will need to be turned into the Church Office no later than Tuesday, January 14.

## Looking For "Ministry Volunteers"

We are seeking "volunteers" who would like to participate in important ministry opportunities as we move into the new year.

Volunteer opportunities include:

- ✓ Updating the Church Sign
- ✓ Operating the "Screens" for worship
- ✓ Operating the "livestream" video for worship

While these may sound a bit "intimidating" - those who volunteer will be provided a "training time" in preparation.

We are hoping to have enough people that we can "set up a rotation" of folks!

If you have questions - or are interested - please contact Pastor Dave soon!

## Ordination and Installation - January 5

We begin a new year in 2025 with the Ordination and Installation of our Ruling Elders and Deacons - during worship on Sunday, January 7.

Our Ruling Elders to be installed are **John Crammond and Jean Oren**.

Our Deacon to be ordained is Alex Harvey. Our Deacon to be installed is **Debby Capener**.

We are grateful for those who have faithfully served: Ruling Elders **Rhys Brenner, Lee Roundy, Alex Harvey and Larry Day** - and Deacons **Tammy Foster, Lynne Warren and Glenda Day**.

## A Big THANK YOU - "Readers" during Advent

A note of appreciation for those who served as "readers" during our recent Advent Season. "Thank you" for participating in the worship and ministry of PPC during this special time of the year. You helped to provide a "place" and a "space" of worship for all!

"Thank you"

Harlan Buchanan - Debby Capener - Peggy Alf - Fred Taylor  
Nicky Cross - Kathy Hankins

## A "Thank You" for the "Barn Service!"

Thank you to the Heinze Family for once again hosting the annual "Christmas Worship in a Barn" worship experience. And, of course, a note of gratitude to the rooster, chickens, cats and kittens and cows who allowed us to invade their "space." Also the hot cider and cookies were appreciated by all in attendance.

The Heinze family has hosted this worship service for many years - and we do appreciate their willingness to provide a "place" for this unique and inspirational service.

We also are grateful for Fred and Judy Taylor, who once again portrayed Joseph and Mary as a part of this service.

## "Special Music" - Thank You!

A special "Thank You" to all who provided "special music" during Advent and Christmas.

Your participation helped to provide joyous and inspirational worship experiences for all who shared with us.

"Thank You"

Nancy Beasley - Lee Roundy - Evie Roundy - PPC Handbell Choir

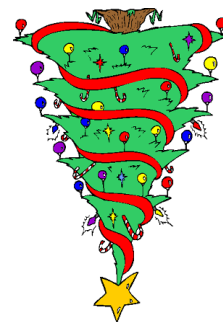


## "UN - Decorating" The Church - January 11

We will be "UN-decorating the Church" - on **Saturday, January 11** - beginning @ **9:00 a.m.**

All ages and skill levels are encouraged to come to help get everything packed away.

Hope to see you there!



## Upcoming Worship Services

Sunday, January 5 - "Traditional" Worship Service - 10:05 a.m.

The Second Sunday of Christmas - "Epiphany Sunday"

Ordination and Installation of Elders and Deacons

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

Sunday, January 12 - "Traditional" Worship Service - 10:05 a.m.

The "Baptism of the Lord" Sunday

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Sunday, January 19 - "Informal" Worship Service - 10:05 a.m.

The Second Sunday of Epiphany

John 2:1-11

Sunday, January 26 - "Annual Meeting" Worship / Meeting - 10:05 a.m

The Third Sunday of Epiphany

Meeting in the Fellowship Hall (for this Sunday)

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

Here's "another option" for "online" worship experiences!

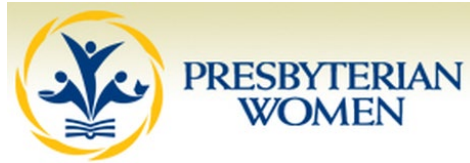
You can go to the PPC "YouTube" Channel!

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.

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



Thanks to all who supported the Women's Associations "Holiday House" on December 7th. We appreciate all that you do to help us contribute to our various organizations in our community.

Our next meeting will be on Saturday, February 8th 9:00 a.m. - @ 1873 Grille (downtown). Come and join us for breakfast.

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!

### 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.

The next meeting of the Deacons will be on Sunday, January 19 - *following worship!*



Upcoming dates for "Stocking Shelves @ the Food Pantry" will be **Wednesday, January 15** and by the Bellmore Family on **Wednesday, January 22** .

We usually begin @ 4:00 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

- "Winter Adventures"
- Pinewood Derby
- "Crossover" for Webelos

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

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 - 2025**

Serving God and God's People

With "Energy, Intelligence, Imagination and Love"

Ruling Elders / Session

Moderator - Pastor Dave Hankins

Clerk of Session - Alex Harvey

Jarrett Foster (2025)

Tara Bandekow (2026)

John Crammond (2027)

Nancy Schaper (2025)

Nancy Beasley (2026)

Jean Oren (2027)

Kathy Raimer (2026)

Deacons

Moderator of Deacons - Peggy Alf-Sechtig

Secretary - Liz Bellmore

Treasurer - Joyce Meredith

Peggy Alf (2025)

Vickie Kastner (2026)

Alex Harvey (2027)

Joyce Meredith (2025)

Joyce Oehlhof (2026)

Debby Capener (2027)

Liz Bellmore (2025)