The Portage Presbyterian Church

November, 2026

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

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

All-Church POTLUCK

Mark your calendars for some good food and fellowship on *November 1* following worship.

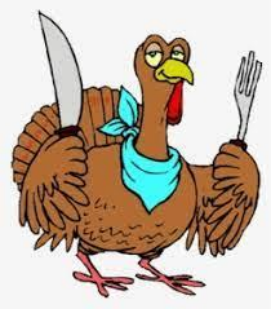
The Deacons are hosting a brunch-lunch as a kickoff to Fall and the busy year end months.

We will gather downstairs in the Fellowship Hall with the *Deacons providing main course dishes and beverages*. We would invite you to bring a dessert or side dish to pass if you are able.

We look forward to a good time and sure hope you can join us!

FOOD, FELLOWSHIP, IT'S A WINNER!

"Annual Harvest Dinner" - November 14



Our annual Harvest Dinner will be **Saturday, November 14th**, from **4:30 until 6:30 p.m.** Come and enjoy a *turkey dinner with mashed potatoes, gravy, squash, dressing, dinner roll, cranberries; and, of course, pie for dessert.* All this for $15. Children 7 and under $7. *There will also be a basket raffle*. There will be a pet basket, chili basket, art supply basket, cornucopia basket and children baskets to name a few.

We still need people to help with this dinner. There are signup sheets in Parry Hall to sign up or you can contact Donna, if you can help. We also need pies. You can make any kind of pie, purchase a pie, or donate money for us to purchase a pie.

Thank you to Corey Rohrbeck and Smith's Market for donating squash. Also thank you to all those who helped with cooking squash.

"Community Thanksgiving Worship" - November 22



On **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22**
the Portage United Methodist Church and PPC
will come together to share a
"Community Thanksgiving Service"
beginning @ **9:00 A.M.**
@ **PORTAGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

We look forward to this worship experience of "giving thanks" - and of sharing together in fellowship.

"Give Thanks With A Grateful Heart"

Upgrades to PPC's Website



In today's world, websites are critical for churches. They are how new members find and evaluate churches as well as keeping members stay connected to the life of the church. It is the modern equivalent of having an ad in the phone book.

We have learned that even here in Portage people are "visiting" our website and other social media pages - "before" actually coming into the church building!

This is why we are seeking to update our "website" - so that those who are "visiting us" can have the most up-to-date information about the good things that are happening here @ PPC.

Moving our website to WordPress will cost approximately $2,600 - *a "one-time fee*." Average monthly expenses will increase from $15 to $85 ($65/month for hosting/maintenance fees plus annual software fees of $240).

If you are interested in helping to fund this project, either drop a check with a note for "website" in the memo line in the offering plate / church office or donate online with a note that it is for the website.

If you have questions or would like more information - please contact the Church Office.

from the Personnel Committee

Here's the information we have posted - if you know of someone who may be interested, please pass this on. Thank you. Personnel Committee

Administrative Assistant & Financial Secretary

Portage Presbyterian Church is seeking a part-time Administrative Assistant and Bookkeeper (10-15 hours/week) to support both the day-to-day operations of the church office and the financial record-keeping of the congregation.

This role is ideal for someone who enjoys both working with people and behind-the-scenes organization.

The responsibilities include: greeting visitors and answering phones in the office with warmth and professionalism; providing clerical support for pastor, committees and church communications; managing financial records using QuickBooks and assisting with annual financial reports; and, ordering supplies, maintaining office files and supporting facility scheduling.

Qualifications include proficiency in QuickBooks and basic accounting practices, proficiency using Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. Familiarity with or open to learning WordPro is desired. Strong organizational and communication skills, friendly, professional presence with a commitment to confidentiality and flexibility, reliability and the ability to balance multiple responsibilities are needed.

This is a part-time position, approximately 10-15 hours per week with compensation based on experience. We offer flexible scheduling in your role as an independent contractor.
To apply, please send your resume and a brief note of interest to office@portagepresbyterianchurch.org.

This position search is open until November 18, 2026.

Events Committee



We will again this year ring bells for the Salvation Army at Festival on November 21st from 2:00 until 8:00 p.m. There will be a signup sheet for signing up an hour at a time or you can contact Donna. *Thank you for helping with this very important mission for our community.*

Women's Association

We will be *putting together a Scrip order*. If you are looking for a gift card for Christmas or just a card for your everyday shopping, please check out the form on the table in Parry Hall. There are cards for restaurants, gas, and many businesses. If you have any questions, please contact Elaine. Orders will be due to Elaine by November 15th.

Our next meeting will be at Dino's at 9:00 a.m. on November 7th.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

"Sunday Scripture Study"

We will resume our "Study" on

Tuesday, November 10 -

@ 5:30 p.m. in **Westminster Center** -

If you have a Bible, please bring it along!

We will have an opportunity to "learn together" -
as we share insights, questions, ideas and faith together!

Everyone is welcome!

Be sure to invite others to be a part of this group too!

Questions? Contact Pastor Dave!

"Decorating" for Advent @ PPC

Yes, it is hard to believe that in a few weeks we will be moving into the Advent Season of the year. And so we are "preparing" for "decorating" here at PPC.

We will plan to gather on Saturday, November 28 - beginning @ 9:00 a.m. to work on the "decorating."



However, if anyone has time *during the week of November 22-27* - and would like to get a "head start" - please come!

The "decorations" will be in Parry Hall and the Sanctuary - with containers "marked" accordingly.

If you have any questions - or need access into the church during the week - please contact Pastor Dave!

"Special Music" for Advent / Christmas?



Music plays such a big part in our Advent and Christmas experiences!

We would love to have you share your "gift of music" with us!

Instrumental? - Vocal? - Group or Individual?
All are encouraged to participate in these special worship experiences.

If you would like to participate in any of the Advent or Christmas worship services - *please contact Pastor Dave*

Christmas Joy Offering - during Advent

The "Christmas Joy Offering" will once again be collected during Advent.

More information will be included in upcoming bulletins and in the December newsletter.



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.

Upcoming Worship Services

Sunday, November 1 - "Traditional" Worship Service - *10:05 a.m.*
The Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

Sunday, November 8 - "Traditional" Worship Service - *10:05 a.m.*
The Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
"All Saints Sunday"
Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Sunday, November 15 - "Informal" Worship Service - *10:05 a.m.*
The Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
Matthew 25:14-30

Sunday, November 22 - "Community Thanksgiving" Worship - ***9:00 a.m.***
@ Portage United Methodist Church *(New Pinery Road)*

Sunday, November 29 - "Traditional" Worship Service - *10:05 a.m.*
The First Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 6 - "Traditional" Worship Service - *10:05 a.m.*
The Second Sunday of Advent
Celebration of the Lord's Supper

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



Upcoming dates for "Stocking Shelves @ the Food Pantry" will be **Wednesday, November 18** There will be no work at the Food Pantry on November 25 - due to the Thanksgiving break.

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 nonperishables 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.
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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.

Julie McKibben and Jared Gehling serve as the co-advisors for the New Directions Club.

SCOUT ACTIVITIES / EVENTS

The Scouts enjoy many "outdoor" activities and events as they move into the Fall season.
Keep the Scouts and their leaders in your prayers as they continue to learn through their Scouting experineces!

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.

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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



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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

GIVE NOW

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 - 2026

Serving God and God's People

With "Energy, Intelligence, Imagination and Love"

Ruling Elders / Session

Moderator - Pastor Dave Hankins

Clerk of Session - Alex Harvey

Tara Bandekow (2026)	John Crammond (2027)	Whitney Mell (2028)
Nancy Beasley (2026)	Jean Oren (2027)	Nicky Cross (2028)
Kathy Raimer (2026)		Cindy Moyer (2028)

Deacons

Moderator of Deacons - Liz Bellmore

Secretary – Deb Capener

Treasurer - Vickie Kastner

Vickie Kastner (2026)	Alex Harvey (2027)	Sue Goodman (2028)
Joyce Oehlhof (2026)	Debby Capener (2027)	Laura Brenner (2028)
		Liz Bellmore (2028)

November 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 10:05 a.m. - Traditional Worship	**2** 4:00 pm - Adm / Corp Affairs Comm	**3** **No** "Sunday Scripture" Study Tonight	**4**	**5**	**6**	**7** 9:00 a.m. - Women's Association @ Dino's
8 10:05 a.m. "All Saints Sunday" - Lord's Supper	**9**	**10** 5:30 p.m. - "Sunday Scripture" Study (WC)	**11** Veterans Day	**12** 6:00 p.m. - Session Mtg	**13**	**14** Annual "Harvest Dinner" - 4:30-6:30 p.m.
15 10:05 a.m. - Informal Worship	**16**	**17** John Knox Presbytery - FPC Lodi	**18** 4:00 - Food Pantry / Stocking	**19**	**20**	**21** 2:00-8:00 pm Ringing Bells@ Festival Fds
22 Thanksgiving Service @ 9:00 a.m. - Portage Un Methodist	**23**	**24**	**25**	**26** Thanksgiving Day	**27**	**28** 9:00 a.m. - Decorating the Church
29 10:05 a.m. - First Sunday of Advent	**30**	**1** Scouts - **Sun Mtgs** Pack-2:00 p.m. Troop-6:00 p.m.	**2** New Directions 4-H 3rd Sundays @ 4:00 p.m.	**3**	**4**	**5**

