



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
PITTSFORD

THE GOOD NEWS

OCTOBER 2023

---

Embracing and Sharing Christ's Love

### CHARTING THE COURSE WITH PASTOR AARON

In this volume of *The Good News*, you will see an article from the Generosity Committee introducing this year's stewardship campaign. Every year during the stewardship campaign, I create a sermon series tailored around the theme of the campaign. As you will read in the Committee's article, the theme this year is "Share God's Blessings" and was inspired by the words of Paul from 2 Corinthians 9:7: "God loves a cheerful giver."

Every autumn, we hear words like "generosity," "give," and "stewardship" connected to the campaign. As the Generosity Committee endeavors to make clear each year, and as I'm sure most of you know, generosity within Christian theology is a principle that permeates all aspects of our lives. Generosity is not a thing we do; it is a way we live. This is, in part, what the stewardship campaign is meant to remind us of every year. In my sermon series in October and November, I will elaborate on this point.

For four consecutive Sundays, starting October 22, I will be preaching on the following topics: "Cheerfully Giving Our Worship," "Cheerfully Giving Our Faith to Each Other," "Cheerfully Giving Our Faith to the World," and "Cheerfully Giving Our Resources." Generosity is evidence that God is transforming our hearts—it is a fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22). Theologically speaking, generosity means "always being ready to respond to God's leading." For that reason, our worship should be heartfelt and effusive, our nurturing of one another should be faithful and loving, our mission and evangelism should be eager and committed, and our giving should be meaningful and joyful. Generosity permeates our whole lives.

I look forward to this year of growth and transformation as a church, and I'm so grateful to be journeying alongside you.

~Aaron



### Thanksgiving Pie Sale is coming up soon!

Same flavors as last year, same price (\$20) and deadline for orders will be Sunday, November 5, with delivery to the church on Monday, November 20!

Watch for more info in the Friday updates and in the weekly bulletins!



### Did You Know?

Funding for our Faith Forward initiative comes from Restricted Funds, not our annual budget. This is further evidence of how those who came before us support our vision for the future.

## Lectionary for October

### October 1 18th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 17:1-7  
Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16  
Philippians 2:1-13  
Matthew 21:23-32

### October 8 19th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20  
Psalm 19  
Philippians 3:4b-14  
Matthew 21:33-46

### October 15 20th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 32:1-14  
Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23  
Philippians 4:1-9  
Matthew 22:1-14

### October 22 21st Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 33:12-23  
Psalm 99  
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10  
Matthew 22:15-22

### October 29 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

Deuteronomy 34:1-12  
Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17  
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8  
Matthew 22:34-46



## Members with October Birthdays

*Hoping your birthday brings you many happy reasons to celebrate!*  
If we missed you, please let the office know.

Amanda Adams  
Jenna Adams  
Erin Amborski  
Susan Bloch  
Joyce Cole  
Linda Converse  
Madeline Frank  
Rachel Gartland  
Anne Glenning  
Annelise Henry

Emma Hilger  
Sophie Hilger  
Jane Huang  
Sam Huang  
Margaret Kilmer  
Vicki Klie  
Marjorie MacKenzie  
Julie Magnuson  
Luis Martinez  
Dorothy Meusburger

Rosicela Milla  
Dorothy Naylor  
Megan Nead  
Susan Patterson  
James Purpura III  
Beverly Reeve  
Lucien Rouse  
Catherine Spare  
Dick Sprenkle  
Katelyn Stern

Brenna Swetman  
Kristen Thon  
Danny Traina  
Pem Tyler  
Marjorie Wallace  
June Wilson  
Powell Wright



As we prepare to continue our faith journey and enter a new program year here at First Presbyterian Church, the Generosity Committee wants to give you some information to help you contemplate how you can share your faith and contribute to our mission. Our Generosity Campaign Theme for this year is **Share God's Blessings and Consecration Sunday will be November 12, 2023. Pledge Packets will be mailed to you in mid-October.**

Over the next several weeks leading up to Consecration Sunday, we will be sharing with you articles in *The Good News*, vignettes, and DYK's (Did You Know?) in the weekly bulletin under the heading of Share God's Blessings.

First Presbyterian Church has been fortunate in our history to have the resources to pursue our church mission by spreading the good news of Jesus through: Worship, Fellowship, Education, Prayer and especially Mission. Not all congregations have been so blessed. These blessings have been bestowed on us from God's love and grace. Over the years it has been the sharing of God's Blessings to each of us in the form of time, talent, and treasures that have allowed us to continue our mission here at First Presbyterian. This has been in the form of Outreach to such organizations as Cameron Community Ministries, Habitat for Humanity, and the JASY program, glorious music to amplify our worship and provide the Rochester community an opportunity to share in our joy, Christian education that extends into fellowship through our LOGOS program, and other Bible study and faith strengthening discussions. Faith in God and our mission to spread his word, has guided us through both glorious times and difficult circumstances. We have always prevailed and found a way to continue our mission no matter how difficult the task. As each of you contemplates your individual blessings from God, please keep the needs of this congregation in your minds and hearts so that we may continue our mission.

The Generosity Committee

Lew Becker (chair), Andy Ashworth, William Blackmon, Faye Casey, Paul Irving, Pastor Aaron Neff, Bill Rieth, Rob Rhodes



### News from the Nursery School

Happy Fall! After our first few weeks of school, everyone has transitioned into the new school year. We are continuing to enroll students in our 3's/4's/YK programs. In October, we have lots of hands-on learning fun with pumpkins, apples, and leaves. The students are starting to think about Halloween too! October highlights include our Fall Family Festival, annual PCNS Mum Plant fundraiser, field trip to Chase Farms, picture day, and a walking field trip to the Pittsford Fire Department. Lots to look forward to, thank you for your continued support!

Kathy Woodruff, Director Pittsford Nursery School

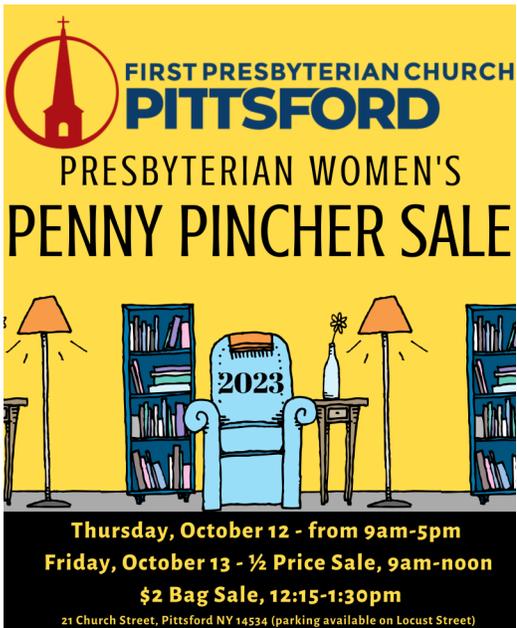
### Fall Deacon Events

Game Night – Friday, October 13, at 7 pm in Fellowship Hall

Hiking Mendon Ponds Park – Saturday, October 14, meet at church at 10 am

Cooking Club – Sunday, October 15, at 5 pm in Fellowship Hall. We will prepare several traditional British meals in honor of the new King Charles. Cost is \$8 per person.

Sign up with Dan Traina at [dtraina@rochester.rr.com](mailto:dtraina@rochester.rr.com) or call 585-208-6839



## Penny Pincher Sale

This year the Presbyterian Women's Penny Pincher Sale is the week of **October 9-13**

**Table Set-Up:** Sunday, October 8, 11:30 am - 1:30 pm

**Drop-off Dates:** Monday, October 9, 9:30 am – 5 pm; Tuesday, October 10, 9:30 am – 5 pm; Wednesday, October 11, 9:30 am - noon (*please don't leave anything outside*)

**Sale Dates:** Thursday, October 12, 10 am – 5 pm; Friday, October 13: ½ Price Sale 10 am - noon, \$2 Bag Sale 12:15 pm - 1:30 pm

**Load Van & Clean Up:** Friday, October 13, 1:30 pm – 4 pm

As you clean out, reorganize or downsize in the next few weeks, please keep us in mind for donations. Our WISH LIST includes: small working appliances, antiques, collectibles, books, CDs, DVDs, sports equipment, holiday items, dishes, glassware, furniture, jewelry, kitchen and household items, craft supplies, stationery/office items, toys, games and puzzles, tools and garden equipment, small electronics and linens. *ALL DONATIONS MUST BE CLEAN AND USABLE.*

We do NOT accept: clothing, large exercise equipment, grills, large appliances, skis, boots, poles, and electronics like TVs, computers, and stereos. If you have a large or unusual item you wish to donate, please ask first. Please mark sizes on sheets and tablecloths with a piece of tape—this really helps!

Clean plastic bags and shopping bags for use at the sale may be donated with your sale items in October. We will be in Fellowship Hall after each service for volunteers to sign up starting on September 10. We need all the help we can get and volunteering is a great way to meet those elusive people from the “other” worship service!

Clean plastic bags and shopping bags for use at the sale may be donated with your sale items in October. We will be in Fellowship Hall after each service for volunteers to sign up starting on September 10. We need all the help we can get and volunteering is a great way to meet those elusive people from the “other” worship service!

## Greater Rochester Interfaith Builders (GRIB)

Our house at 108 Ackerman Street is moving right along and volunteers are needed! To sign up to volunteer go to <https://www.grhabitat.org/faith-volunteering>. Enjoy a sense of accomplishment, getting to know others in our faith groups, and contributing to the housing needs in Rochester for the underprivileged!

## Anthony Circle

October is the Penny Pincher Sale, October 8-15. Please sign up for a couple of work sessions. Come spent time with your new and old friends at FPC.

## Landscape News!

Our last official date of the season is scheduled for Wednesday, October 25, at 9:00 am with a rain date of the 26th, same timeframe.

NOTE: This date is a change from the originally scheduled October date!

Please come and help out with the church grounds! Bring your own gardening's tools, especially rakes and tarps (for pulling leaf piles to the street!). Snacks and water provided!

Debbie Gaudion  
585/749-3978

## Needle Nellies

The Needle Nellies will gather in room 204 on Tuesday, October 31, at 11 am. Join the fun! Maybe even wear a costume?

# There are SO MANY WAYS to participate as a 6th-12th grader at FPC Pittsford!

## Join us for October Youth Fellowship Events

Sunday the 8th – Help set up for Penny Pincher Sale following the 10 am worship service

Monday the 9th – Laser Tag at 3 pm (no school)

Sunday the 22nd – 6-8 pm Youth Group Fellowship (drop off & pick up Locust St. door)

Saturday the 28th – Presbytery-wide mission event hosted by FPC “Ramp it Up”

## Join us for LIVING/LOGOS on Wednesdays 4:15-6:30 pm

You are welcome each Wednesday for “Out and About” (Starbucks/Yotality), opportunities to volunteer with the younger classes, and Bible Study—all followed by dinner!

## Join us for October FORUM Sunday School at 10 am on Sundays

Sunday the 1st – WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY, please worship with your family

Sunday the 8th – FORUM for Grades 6-12 with Pastor Neff

Sunday the 15th, 22nd and 29th – FORUM for Grades 6-12 with Pastor Jacobson or Craig Kunkle

More information can be found on our website at [pittsfordpres.org/youth-2](http://pittsfordpres.org/youth-2).

Please email Pastor Jacobson at [erin.jacobson@pittsfordpres.org](mailto:erin.jacobson@pittsfordpres.org) or text or call 585.204.2012

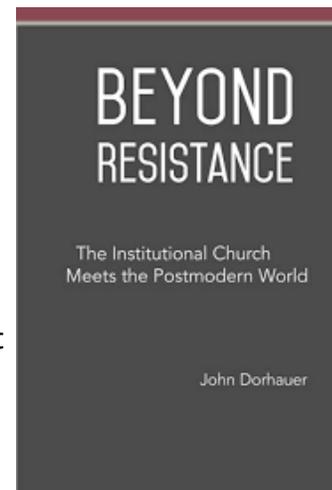
---

## Online Book Study: Beyond Resistance

Susan Orr, transitional leader and stated clerk of the Presbytery of the Genesee Valley, wonders: “Have you ever read a book that so resonated with you that you scribbled all over the margins? This happened to me when I picked up John Dorhauer’s book *Beyond Resistance: The Institutional Church Meets the Post-modern World*. Join her in a 6-week study of the book *Beyond Resistance*, Mondays, October 16 – November 20, 9-10 am online. [Register by clicking the link here](#). Purchase the book and read Chapter One: “Death with Dignity” for the first session.

Author John Dorhauer will share a presentation on the learnings from the book on November 18, at 9:30 am, in-person or via Zoom. There will be time for Q&A and a meal together. More details, including location and registration details to come. Find more information [here](#).

---



## OPTIMISTS

OPTIMISTS’ first meeting for Fall 2023 will be on the THIRD Friday of the month—October 20. The topic will be Halloween and Reformation Sunday. Meetings are planned to include a soup and sandwich meal (\$5 per person), socializing, and discussion of the meeting’s topic. Let’s see if we each can invite a friend to join us. Perhaps introduce yourself to someone new after church and/or give someone a call to extend invitations to come! Put October 20 on your calendar—even add the other meeting dates for the SECOND Friday of each month through Spring 2024!



## Our Youth are Running in the 14th annual East Avenue Grocery Run to benefit Rochester-area food pantries

November 4

Run or walk with the youth,  
OR help FPC youth reach our fundraising goal!

Join us in-person or virtually for the Grocery Run 10k run, 5k run/walk or the 1 mile run/walk to benefit local food pantries! The Youth of FPC Pittsford will be running or walking, and are taking orders for our youth-designed, church-branded fundraising t-shirts (designed by Kaylee Maas!) in the Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 and 8. Come and find a youth who will help you sign up or support them.

The live events start at 8:00 am on November 4, at Third Presbyterian Church, 4 Meigs Street, Rochester. Virtual participants can choose any distance to run, bike, walk or stroll and complete their event anytime, anywhere November 3- 5. We will meet as a youth group with all our church supporters just before the race.

If you are already planning on running or walking you can join the youth group's team at <https://runsignup.com/RaceGroups/11070/Groups/1389624>

If you would like to support them with a donation, you can donate on their team page at <https://runsignup.com/ppy>

You can show your church pride by ordering a First Presbyterian Grocery Run t-shirt in Fellowship Hall.

**All proceeds will go to our grocery run fundraising goal of \$1,000 to benefit local food pantries!**





## Children Join Adults for Communion

On Sunday, October 1, children have a great opportunity to be in worship during Communion. One of two sacraments Presbyterians celebrate, Communion is a very meaningful part of our worship which children may not have experienced before. We invite you and your family to participate in Sunday's service and let your children experience all that our worship has to offer as they develop in their own spirituality. As usual, children PreK-5 will go downstairs to Sunday School after the Mouse Report. In Sunday School they will learn about the importance and sacred nature of Communion.

Adult Education Opportunities
Sunday Morning Bible Study 8:15 am library
Monday Night Bible Study 7 pm Zoom
Tuesday Highlands Bible Study 1 pm Highlands Music Room
Wednesday Bible Study 7:15 pm hybrid
Thursday Women's Bible Study noon library

This instruction will contain four foundational concepts:

1. We participate in Communion to **remember** all that Jesus has done.
2. When we participate, we **join with Jesus** and all Christians at the table to eat like a family.
3. When we eat the bread or drink the juice we are **spiritually fed**.
4. The meal gives us the **strength** to carry on in the world.

After learning this, at the singing of the Doxology, children will come back into worship and sit with their parents. This way they can experience, and with your consent, participate in Communion. In the Presbyterian church, we believe that every baptized person with an understanding of Communion appropriate to their own abilities or age, is welcome to take Communion. We hope that this experience will nurture you and your family's spiritual growth. Please join us if you are able.

The Christian Education Committee

## Sunday School Schedule

	Oct 8	Oct 15	Oct 22	Oct 29
Theme:	Love God, Love Others	Welcome the Stranger	The Shepherd Boy and the Giant	Abigail Makes Peace
Pre-K-2:	Movies	Music	Games	Cooking
3-5 :	Movies	Electric Cars	Games	Electric Cars

First Presbyterian Church  
21 Church Street  
Pittsford, New York 14534  
www.pittsfordpres.org

Non-Profit Org.  
PRST STD  
US Postage  
PAID  
Pittsford, NY  
Permit No. 6

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

*“God loves a cheerful giver.”  
2 Corinthians 9:7*

<p>The Rev. Aaron Neff <i>Pastor and Head of Staff</i> 585.643.1240 aaron.neff@pittsfordpres.org</p> <p>The Rev. Erin Jacobson <i>Associate Pastor</i> 585.204.2012 erin.jacobson@pittsfordpres.org</p> <p>Craig Kunkle <i>Director of Christian Education</i> Ext. 30 craig.kunkle@pittsfordpres.org</p> <p>Britta Konau <i>Office &amp; Communications Coord.</i> Ext. 21 britta.konau@pittsfordpres.org</p> <p>Maria DiGiambattista <i>Financial Administrator</i> Ext. 23 treasurer@pittsfordpres.org</p>	<p>Leslie Harvey <i>Custodian</i> 585.364.2430 lharvey@pittsfordpres.org</p> <p>Dr. Jared Chase <i>Director of Music</i> musicdirector@pittsfordpres.org</p> <p>Dr. Bruce Frank <i>Associate Director of Music and Organist</i> bfrank345@gmail.com</p> <p>Dede Holmes <i>Director of Youth Choirs</i> dedeholmes1954@gmail.com</p> <p>Joshua Burke <i>Livestreaming Technician</i> josh@pittsfordpres.org</p>	<p><b>First Presbyterian Church</b> 21 Church Street, Pittsford, NY 14534 Phone 585.586.5688, Fax 585.586.8090 connect@pittsfordpres.org www.pittsfordpres.org</p> <p><b>Worship Service:</b></p> <p><b>8:30 am in-person</b> <b>10:00 am in-person and livestreamed</b></p> <p>Communion is offered on the first Sunday of each month.</p> <p> </p>
---	--	--