

The Scribe

November 2023



The month of November to me is a month that is all about gratitude. Whether it's saying a heartfelt thank you to all who have pledged to give of your time, talents, and a measure of your treasures to this church. Thank you! Or preparing for my favorite holiday, Thanksgiving; a day we set aside to gather with family and friends and be appreciative for all we have been given.

O give thanks to the Lord for God is good, God's steadfast love endures forever. (Psalm 136:1)

With heartfelt thanks for all of your support to myself and the staff here, Grace and Peace, Pastor Joan



#### A Thankful, Grateful Heart by Deborah Ann Belka

Lord, give me a thankful heart, one that is appreciative one that to all Your blessings is attuned and sensitive. Let it be a heart. that sings its daily praise let it be my heartfelt gratitude that to You I earnestly raise. Let me have a heart. truly thankful for all things no matter what in my life You should choose to bring Let my heart flow with, the rivers of Your peace so my appreciation to You I may continually release. Lord, give me a thankful heart, one that is steadily hopeful let it be the heart of one . . . who is to You truly grateful!

And so, in this month of gratitude, maybe gratitude should be defined as Theologian Henry Nouwen defines it:

"In the past I always thought of gratitude as a spontaneous response to the awareness of gifts received, but now I realize that gratitude can also be lived as a discipline. The discipline of gratitude is the explicit effort to acknowledge that all I am and have is given to me as a gift of love, a gift to be celebrated with joy. Gratitude as a discipline involves a conscious choice. I can choose to be grateful even when my emotions and feelings are still steeped in hurt and resentment. It is amazing how many occasions present themselves in which I can choose gratitude instead of complaint. The choice for gratitude rarely comes without some real effort. But each time I make it, the next choice is a little easier, a little freer, a little less self-conscious."

(The return of the Prodigal Son by Henri Nouwen)





## November 5, 2023 is All Saint's Sunday,

the Sunday closest to All Saint's Day which is November 1. It is a day when we honor all who have passed away in the last year (11/2022-11/2023). Please submit any names of friends or loved ones who you would like to be honored by Thursday, November 2 to the church office.

## Stewardship

Our annual Stewardship drive has come to a close. Thank you to everyone who made a pledge of support in 2024! If you didn't return the card, it's not too late. The Church office is happy to provide you with another if you need it. Your pledge helps our Trustees plan next year's budget. As we search for a new pastor, your pledge to the church will determine the pay offer we make to a new Pastor. The Pas-



tor Nominating Committee would like the assurance that we have enough pledges to meet the Pastor's salary and benefits.

There are many reasons to give to the church. What's your reason? Is it . . .

- Supporting the youth programs of the Church
- Helping people in need
- Attending worship to hear the music and the message
- Seeing your friends at coffee hour and bible study
- Teaching our children the bible songs and stories you learned as a child
- Providing visits to those who are sick or bereaved
- Seeing the Cub Scouts enjoy their weekly meetings in fellowship hall
- Heating the Church in winter and cooling it in summer

Your gifts are vital to the Church. If you haven't already done so, would you send in your pledge card today?

If you have sent in your pledge card already, the Stewardship Committee sends their heart-felt THANK YOU!



## It's Cookie Time !

Calling on all bakers to dig out your favorite cookie recipes and start baking for our upcoming Cookie Walk at the Christmas Bazaar. Please label cookies nuts/no nuts, gluten free, to be set up in the appropriate area. Please drop off cookies on Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, downstairs in the choir room. Tables will be set up waiting for their arrival.

We are looking for another successful year for our cookie walk, and want to send everyone home with a smile on their face and their favorite cookies. Thanks to all for your support. Sharon DeSarro

Cookie Walk Chair

Nana's Attic:

Vintage pottery, stoneware, colored glass vases, fishing lures + gear, garden objects, vintage toys, dolls, Legos, small furniture, original artwork, old frames, cast iron pans, old tools. Please contact Kim Magro 860-772-7412

Please bring all donations by November 5th.



**Raffle** Tickets go on sale November 5th

Get Your Tickets! for \$10.00

\$1.00 each or 15

## Wreaths and Cemetery Boxes



Decorating wreaths will be Saturday Nov. 11th 9am-2pm

Calling all baker's.

We need your pies, Brownies, Bars, Cakes, ETC.... Baked goods needed by Friday, November 17th Sign up in Fellowship Hall Questions? Contact: Mimi Yu



Necklaces, Earrings, Bracelets, Pins, Rings, Watches, etc. Also needed, small boxes in good condition. Please drop off your items in Fellowship Hall by Sunday November 12th with a label

or note for the "Jewelry Corner".

If you have any jewelry questions, please contact <u>fletcher867@yahoo.com</u> or <u>jalarkin@hotmail.com</u>



## Wednesday November 8th

11:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary 12 p.m. Luncheon in Fellowship Hall

Menu Homemade American Chop Suey, salad, and dessert.

There will be Bingo following with Sharon DeSarro

Please sign up on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

#### Financial Review - Help Needed

We are required to have a Financial Review of our books done on an annual basis.

The past few years, we've been lucky enough to have an accountant that was willing to do it.



This year, we are hoping a couple of members of the congregation would be willing to assist with this. Time commitment should be about 10 hours. Timeframe is flexible, though would need to complete by year end. There is a framework from prior reviews that can be used as a guide.

You don't have to be an accountant to volunteer. Please let David Capaldi, know if you are interested.



We welcome all the children to join us Sunday mornings during the 10am worship for Sunday school, we will learn that week's sermon through interactive play, crafts and fun.

If you're interested in Volunteering, we could use helpers willing to help watch little ones not old enough for Sunday school, as well

as volunteers to assist with the Sunday school activity, there is a sign-up sheet in fellowship hall. If you have any questions, please contact Amanda McLintock (401)-644-7496, Amandamclintock@gmail.com





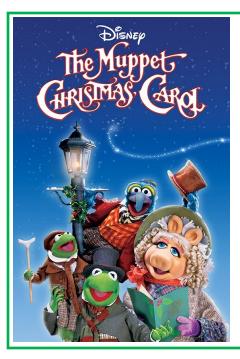
**\*\*Teen Team Resumes Meetings:\*\*** The Teen Team will be back on Tuesday nights from 5pm to 7:30pm in November. All teens in 6th grade and above are welcome to join us. We'll have food and beverages ready for you!

**\*\*Thank You for Your Support**:\*\* We extend our gratitude to everyone who supported Marissa Panciera's donation drive for Ronald McDonald House. Thanks to your generosity, Marissa reached her formilies in page

goal, which will make a difference for families in need.

**\*\*Global Collaboration**: **\*\*** Our high school leaders are actively engaged in The Art to Living virtual workshop series, collaborating with students from Brazil and Africa. This journey towards positive mental health and self-discovery will culminate in November with their 'Silver Lining' art project presentations.

**\*\*Friendsgiving Celebration:\*\*** Mark your calendars for the Teen Team's Friendsgiving event on Tuesday, November 21st, at 5pm in the Teen Room. It's an open invitation to all youth group members and their friends. Let's celebrate together!



#### THE MUPPET'S CHRISTMAS CAROL

WED, DEC 6<sup>TH</sup> 6:30PM MYSTIC LUXURY CINEMA TICKETS ARE \$9 SIGN UP BEGINS in Nov. Limited to 80 people



#### EARLY LEARNING CENTER & KIDKARE

October has been an exciting month as we have watched the changes Fall brings. We have read many fun books about the changing leaves and have enjoyed finding leaves on the playground. We engaged in a fire safety unit where we learned different safety tips. We learned we need to dial 911 when we need help. We also learned the importance of knowing our street address and a phone number of a family member. We now know how to stop, drop, and roll if our clothes have flames on them. We discussed having a meeting spot with our families, so we know where to meet if we need to get out of our house. We will finish up the unit with a field trip to the fire station at the end of the month. We also practice fire drills monthly. We have created many fall crafts using different materials such as apples. We are continuously working on our literacy skills by identifying letters, sounds, words, and following along in decodable sight word books. We are working hard on our cutting skills while we cut our pictures to sequence, complete a pattern, or create an art piece. We are looking forward to diving into the holiday season where we focus on food groups, healthy food choices, and our 5 senses. Our bookshelf is up, and our beautiful classroom is complete. We cannot thank the "Tuesday Men" enough. We appreciate your dedication to our program.



The Deacons of the church are busy reaching out to meet needs in the congregation and the community. Although our Board of Deacons is actively involved in many endeavors, some current activities are highlighted below. Deacons continue to seek and grow as a community where God's love and kindness are available for all.

<u>Warm Shelter Dinner</u>: Swiss Chicken Dinners are back, sign up in Fellowship Hall. Remember we are the first Saturday of the month - <u>November 5th</u> - church will be open from 8 am - 2 pm to accept donations. Please use all **disposable** containers.

<u>Angel Tree:</u> Watch for the Angel Tree in November. More information coming in the Sunday Bulletins.

<u>Please be sure to visit the bulletin board just inside Fellowship Hall.</u> There you'll find information and sign ups for everything from upcoming events and activities to Coffee Fellowship, Communion servers, Sunday morning flowers, WARM dinners and more. *WE NEED YOU!* Hope you'll stop by the board regularly and find various ways to participate!

**Deacons who are faithfully serving the congregation are:** Pam Ganz, Yvette Drurey, Dianne Lowther, Sandy Santy, Doreen Smith, Jeanne Pietraallo, Sue Rieger, Marilyn Brandyberry, Bonnie Krauss, Sue Eldridge, Sharon Joiner, and Cheryl Remsbecker.

## <u>Johnnycake</u>

The Jonnycake food pantry has recently lost it's funding for toiletries. As a result, we could use the following donations.

Shampoo, Conditioner, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste Hand soap, Shaving Cream, Razors Bar Soap, Liquid Hand Soap Baby Wipes, Body Wash Deodorant - Men's & Women's

If you don't want to donate toiletries, we can always use soup, crackers, condiments.



#### Veteran's Day

We are honoring our Veteran's in worship on Sunday November 12TH. We have a list of the names of all the Veteran's that have been submitted over the last several years. Please help us make sure the list is complete. Send the names of Veteran's connected to our congregation to Nancy Fortin at <u>dunnschurch@gmail.com</u>

#### Presbyterian Women's Book Club



The Presbyterian Women's zoom book group will meet on Monday November 27th at 7pm to discuss the book *The Tin Ticket*, by Deborah J. Swiss.

The in- person book group will meet on December 11th at 7pm at Dunn's Corners Church. We will also discuss the book *The Tin Ticket by Deborah J. Swiss*.

Contact Sue Rieger 401-575-0272 if you are new to our group.

#### **Presbyterian Women**

The October 16th meeting of The Presbyterian Women's Group was led by Janet Loffredo and was well attended. The main order of business was the creation of two baskets for the Christmas Bazaar. They were filled with books and gifts for children, one for young children ages one to six and the other for Older children. Our

second project was the creation of boxes for the "Cookie Walk" and at the same time managing to plan for our Christmas Party which will be



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

held on December 18th. The menu will be quiches, salads, and desserts. Also for additional fun, we will have a "Yankee Swap" with gifts costing no more than \$10.00. Sharon DeSarro will be our Master of Ceremonies and we hope you will come and enjoy the fun. **Some of our future planning includes;** 

Gift Baskets for College students; all gifts for the baskets will be collected by November 20th, which is the date of our next meeting.

January Soup Sale scheduled for the 21st of January, for more information please contact Mary Ann Phillips.

As always, we thank you for your support!!



If you are heading south for the winter please help us to be able to keep you informed of Church happenings! You can do this by emailing the Church <u>dunnschurch@gmail.com</u>

with your winter address and the dates you leave and return.

Thank you!!



# Thanksgiving Harvest Table 2023

It is time to plan for our bountiful Harvest Table for Thanksgiving Sunday. Again, we will have a reversed offering asking for donations of fresh vegetables and fruit. On Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup> as you enter the sanctuary there will be baskets with slips of paper naming the items we need donated. They are vegetables and fruit that have a long shelf life. Please take as many offering slips as you wish, purchase the item(s), and return the

following Sunday November 12<sup>th</sup>. There will be a large container in the narthex for your donations. The container will remain through the week if you forget the 12<sup>th</sup>. The table will be decorated after the bazaar on November 18<sup>th</sup>. After worship on Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, all donations will be delivered to the W.A.R.M. Shelter and Jonnycake Center.

Let us celebrate Thanksgiving of 2023 with grateful and generous hearts. Let's fill the Harvest Table fuller than all the other years!! Again, thank you for your continued generosity. God bless, and as always... Peace.

Questions? Contact Pam Ganz at 401-787-1793 or Sandi Dinwoodie at 401-486-0591

P.S. Pumpkins and gourds are appreciated for added decoration.



South County Habitat for Humanity Rhode Island

**Pastor Nominating** 

Committee

The Habitat group will be working Saturday November 4th at Cardinal Lane in Hopkinton

On Nov 5th is the house dedication at 2c Knight St Westerly. This unit has been worked predominately by DCCCP.

#### **Greetings from your PNC!**

As the weeks and months pass, it is easy to be frustrated with the whole process. We know. We have experienced it too. We have been meeting weekly since July, when our mandatory training by Presbytery was completed. It's important to keep in mind that the

last time our church went through a transition, it was different. There are now more hoops to jump through and also because we had 18 months notice before Rev. Glenn retired. Our 2014 PNC was formed 8 to 10 months before he retired, providing a huge head start in finding the right person. The most important thing is that we again find the right person. There is good news. Just within the last few weeks, real progress has been made. Up until recently, most of our work was directed by and ultimately controlled by Presbytery. Despite being warned that we were moving too quickly, we were able to get our work approved and finally the position was posted on the Presbyterian Church Leadership Connection in early October. Our information then went through a computerized matching program. We were presented with potential candidates from all over the country who the computer "thought" might be good matches. Other candidates saw our posting online and indicated their interest. Each of those candidates had prepared and submitted detailed answers to the system's questions. Our first task was to read and evaluate each potential candidate's answers, along with their education and work experience. We then discussed each candidate and decided if we would send them an invitation to apply for the position. Some were accepted and some were declined. This is an ongoing process as new matches and self-referrals continue to come into the system. We are now learning as much as we can about the candidates who have accepted our invitation. We are listening to their sermons and focusing on our first interviews, which will be via Zoom. Questions are being prepared and evaluated, and the interview process is being determined. We are doing everything we can to be ready for that right person.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	ven	1900	1:30-3:30pm         Westerly Village (FH)         6-8pm Cub Scouts (FH)	2 5:45-6:50 pm Glory Ringers 7-8:30 pm Chancel Choir	<b>3</b> 6:30 pm African Drumming (FH)	4 8 am-2 pm Deacons Collect Meals for the WARM Center (FH) Habitat for Humanity— Work Day 12-4 pm Barbie Show (FH)
5 Communion Sunday 8 am Worship 9 am Fellowship Hour 10 am Worship & Sunday School 11:30 am GriefShare	6	<ul> <li>7</li> <li>8:30 am Work Team</li> <li>9:30 am Bible Study (FH)</li> <li>4 pm Worship Committee (Z)</li> <li>5 - 7pm Teen Time (T)</li> <li>6 pm Church family dinner (FH)</li> <li>7 pm Trustees (M)</li> </ul>	8 11:30 am Worship (S) 12:00 pm Diamond Lunch 6-8 pm Cub Scouts (FH)	<b>9</b> 5:45-6:50 pm Glory Ringers 7-8:30pm Chancel Choir	10 Office Closed	11 Veterais Day
12 8 am Worship 9 am Fellowship Hour 10 am Worship & Sunday School 11:30 am GriefShare	13	14 8:30 am Work Team 9:30 am Bible Study (FH) 5 pm Compliance (M) 5-7 pm Teen Time (T) 6 pm Buildings & Grounds (M) 7 pm Session (M)	1:30-3:30 pm Westerly Village (FH) 6-8 pm Cub Scouts (FH)	16 5:45-6:50 pm Glory Ringers 7-8:30pm Chancel Choir	17	18 9 am—2 pm Christmas Bazaar
19 Thanksgiving Harvest Table 8 am Worship 9 am & 11 am Fellowship Hour 10 am Worship & Sunday School 11:30 am GriefShare	20 1 pm Presbyterian Women (FH)	<b>21</b> 8:30 am Work Team 9:30 am Bible Study (FH) 5-7 pm Teen Time (T)	22 1:30-3:30 pm Westerly Village (FH) 6-8 pm Cub Scouts (FH)	23 HAPPY Jhant Squeing	25 Office Closed	26
26 8 am Worship 9 am & 11 am Fellowship Hour 10 am Worship & Sunday School 11:30 am GriefShare 8	27 7 pm Presbyterian Women Book Club (Z)	28 8:30 am Work Team 9:30 am Bible Study (FH) 5-7 pm Teen Time (T) 7 pm Deacons (M)	29 1:30-3:30 pm Westerly Village (FH) 6-8 pm Cub Scouts	<b>30</b> 5:45-6:50 pm Glory Ringers 7-8:30pm Chancel Choir		