

# *The Delmar Prez*

**Delmar Presbyterian Church**  
**585 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, NY 12054 (518)439-9252**

**NOVEMBER 2011**

**Number 391**

**Interim Pastor's Page**

***Family Thanksgivings***

One of the earliest memories I have of Thanksgiving Day is being shuttled off with my dad and some other dads to the high school playoff game while my mom stayed at home (with kids out of the house) to prepare the Thanksgiving meal. I went through something like this again when our youngest son, in the high school marching band, needed to be at the Thanksgiving Day game when the 50+ year classic *Westfield vs Plainfield* rivalry played out on the football field. Off I went (with his mom).

Our family configurations change over the years. One by one, a sister or brother moved away, couldn't get home due to the distance, or chose to be with another part of our extended family. We still stayed in touch. Harder was when a family member died – a grandparent who would periodically be at the table or a parent no longer alive. When my mom died in the fall of 1989, the one who had always spent hours in the kitchen preparing the meal for her family, my father just couldn't pick up the skills nor was immediately motivated to try. Call the restaurant or grocery store; place an order. Fortunately, a sister lived close enough to bring him to her home for Thanksgiving. Now grown with families of our own, Thanksgivings that once were around a single table take place around many tables in different communities in which we five siblings live.

Our understanding of *family* is something we choose to conceptualize and live with. Not everyone has a family around them at Thanksgiving or Christmas. Some Thanksgiving meals found others joining me at my table: a visiting international student, college friends, boyfriend/girlfriend, church member who had lost a spouse. Sometimes I found myself in other people's homes or places where *family* sort of became "the ones you're with." One year it was eating spaghetti with college classmates and Canadians from Quebec in a campground in the Florida keys.

It requires the "reframing" of our hearts and minds for the Christian community to use words like *brother* and *sister*, *mother* and *father* to describe the relationships we have with one another—knowing our only commonality might be that we share a spiritual bond through our faith in Jesus Christ. This spiritual bond grows when we realize God intended us to be in relationship with other human beings; that it is not good that a person should find themselves alone. Christ's coming was God coming to help us see what living in community with others could look like. Just as we did not choose the families in which grew, so the Christian community did not choose who would become part of its household of faith. The early churches met in houses and the hosts may not know who they might meet as they opened the door. As the Apostle Paul told the early church: "we are not male or female, slave or free, Greek or Jew, but one in Christ." Welcome your family of faith.

I needed space over a couple weeks to grieve after my mom died. The church family I served gave me room, supported me with cards, and gently asked how I was doing. Clergy friends filled the pulpit because I did not have the spirit immediately to step back into it. What I most remember is that people, in small and concrete ways, showed their (and God's) love for me, reminding me that the extended family of God was nearby. I am grateful that God helped me reframe how I can use the word *family*.

Know you have a larger family of faith here at the Delmar Presbyterian Church. The Thanksgiving Meal Sunday, November 20th is but one opportunity for us to be a brother or sister, mother or father to each other, particularly at a time when not all of us have a mother or father, sister or brother, with whom we can share this season or one that follows at Christmas.

May all of us give thanks to God for how God provides a way for us to be family to one another here, and the family of God to neighbors who also may need the love of God shown to them through us. "For by this shall the world know that you are my disciples," said Jesus, "that you have love for one another."

The Rev. Robert Foltz-Morrison

## NOVEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS AT CHURCH

<u>Monday, November 1</u>	
Boy Scouts	6:00 PM
<u>Tuesday, November 4</u>	
Outreach Committee Meeting	7:00 PM
<u>Saturday, November 5</u>	
Bethlehem Art Assn. Workshop	8:30 AM
DPC Fall Cleanup Day	9:00 AM
<u>Sunday, November 6</u>	
Worship	10:00 AM
Stewardship Commitment Sunday	
Confirmation Class	11:30 AM
<u>Monday, November 7</u>	
Cub Scouts	6:00 PM
<u>Tuesday, November 8</u>	
Girl Scouts	4:30 PM
Cub Scouts	6:30 PM
<u>Sunday, November 13</u>	
Worship	10:00 AM
Confirmation Class	11:30 AM
<u>Tuesday, November 15</u>	
Session Meeting	7:00 PM
<u>Wednesday, November 16</u>	
Ladies Who Lunch	12:00 PM
<u>Friday, November 18</u>	
Movie Night	7:30 PM
<u>Sunday, November 20</u>	
Worship	10:00 AM
Confirmation Class	11:30 AM
Thanksgiving Dinner	4:30 PM
<u>Tuesday, November 22</u>	
Girl Scouts	4:30 PM
<u>Saturday, November 26</u>	
Hanging of the Greens	9:00 AM
<u>Sunday, November 27</u>	

Worship 10:00 AM

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Weekly events:

Background to the Bible Readings – 9 AM  
Sunday Morning Worship Service – 10 AM  
Women’s Bible Study - Monday 10 AM  
Bells of Praise – To be determined  
Choir Rehearsal – Thursday 7:30 PM  
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⇒PREZ DEADLINE for December ⇐  
**Nov. 20**

### NOVEMBER LECTIONARY READINGS:

NOV. 1 (All Saints’ Day)  
Revelation 7:9-17  
Psalm 34:1-10 ,22  
1 John 3:1-3  
Matthew 5:1-12

NOV. 6 Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25  
Psalm 78:1-7  
I Thessalonians 4:13-18  
Matthew 25:14-30

NOV.13 Judges 4:1-7  
Psalm 123:1-4  
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11  
Matthew 25:31-46

NOV. 20 Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24  
Psalm 100:1-5  
Ephesians 1:15-23  
Matthew 25:31-46

### *Begin Lectionary Year B*

NOV. 27 Isaiah 64:1-9  
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19  
1 Corinthians 1:3-9  
Mark 13:24-37

### READERS

Nov. 13 Libby McGinn  
Nov. 27 Ellen Kelly Lind

### DEACON IN CHARGE

Nov. 6 Dave Austin

Nov. 13 Dave Austin  
 Nov. 20 Pam Hamlin  
 Nov. 27 Dave Austin

**USHERS**

Nov. 6 Dave and Marlene Austin  
 Nov. 13 Ed and Pam Taft  
 Nov. 20 Ron and Lynn Taylor  
 Nov. 27 Kevin and Sue Kilgallon

**WELCOMING HOSTESS**

November Nancy Lynk

**GREETERS**

Nov. 6 Scott and Bridget Masters  
 Nov. 13 Paul and Jacque McGinn  
 Nov. 20 Jeff and Robin Young  
 Nov. 27 Howard and Dot Geyer

**ACOLYTES**

Nov. 6 Kevin Hansen  
 Nov. 13 John Cheu  
 Nov. 20 Katarina Rees  
 Nov. 27 Mary Fleischut

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

In November, the church school will begin preparations for the annual Christmas pageant, which is put on by the youth of our church. The pageant is an important part of our childrens' Christian education experience. There are many roles, both speaking and non-speaking, which children can take part in. We hope that all of the children in our church will participate. Pageant participation forms will be sent out in early November.

The November schedule for the Church school is as follows:

**November 6:** Communion Sunday – Alternate programming provided for children grades preK-5<sup>th</sup> in the church library

**November 13:** Church School – Pageant participation forms due!!

**November 20:** Church School – Children will meet briefly in Fellowship Hall to learn what their pageant roles will be and receive copies of their pageant lines

**November 27:** First Sunday of Advent – Children to decorate tree in Fellowship Hall

**December 4:** First Christmas pageant rehearsal

Please note that this year we will not begin our Christmas pageant rehearsals until the first Sunday in December. This is a change from years past when rehearsals began on the Sunday immediately after Thanksgiving. However, the turnout was often low on this particular weekend and it was decided that rehearsals would begin the following Sunday instead.

*It is VERY IMPORTANT that children attend this first pageant practice as well as subsequent practices in order to feel confident about their participation in the pageant.*

This year, Leslie Cheu, Melissa Dalzell and Gina Jack will be coordinating the pageant. More information will be provided in the December issue of the Prez and in the participation letter that will be mailed to church school families.

Thank you,

Mary Prostick

Superintendent of the Church School



## RPMs

### ***Annual Wreath Fundraiser***

The RPMs is holding their annual handmade wreath sale! Wreaths are 10" in diameter and can be purchased either fully decorated or with only a festive bow.

**There is only a limited number of wreaths available so get your orders in soon!!!**

#### **Cost:**

\$30 for a wreath with a bow

\$35 for a fully decorated wreath

Contact Beth Gould at 596-2116 or RPMsYouthGroup@gmail.com if you would like to order a wreath today, or use the order forms on the bulletin insert this month.

### ***Pampered Chef Fundraiser!!!***

The RPM's have started their Pampered Chef fundraiser. Help the RPMs Raise Money for the Mission Trip and also, get your Christmas Shopping done!!!!

If you are interested in ordering something you can either: Contact Charlene Hesse at 439-8155 or visit her website

<http://www.pamperedchef.biz/chefchar>. (once you place your order on the website enter RPMs in the host/organization box,)

Questions? Call or email Charlene at 439-8155 or pamperedchar@gmail.com

#### **Calendar of Events**

**November 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>: First United Methodist Church Fall Fair Help**

6:00PM-9:00PM / Methodist Church

**November 5<sup>th</sup>: Delmar Presbyterian Church Fall Clean Up**

9:00am – 12:00pm (Refreshments provided!)

**Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>: Fall Fair**

ALL DAY! / Methodist Church

**Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>: RPMs Meetings**  
7:00PM – 8:00PM / Delmar Reformed Church  
(386 Delaware Ave)

**November 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>: Wreath Making Fundraiser**

12pm – 2:30pm and 2:30pm – 5pm / Majestic Tree Farm, Selkirk

**Saturday, November 26<sup>th</sup>: Wreath Making Fundraiser**

6:30pm – 8:00pm / First United Methodist Church

**Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup>: RPMs Meetings**

7:00PM – 8:00PM / Delmar Reformed Church  
(386 Delaware Ave)

## NOTES FROM OUTREACH

### ***Sharing our Thanksgiving***



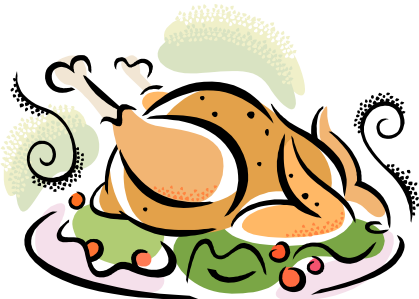
As we have done for many years, our congregation will once again prepare Thanksgiving Baskets (well-stuffed grocery bags) for families in the Town of Bethlehem whose children attend a local elementary school. The school nurses in the three schools we work with have been contacted and have expressed their enthusiasm for continuing the Thanksgiving Basket program again this year. Each nurse will select three or four families on the basis of need and will assure that the families are willing to accept the food and will come to DPC on Tuesday, November 22, 2011 between 11 am and 12 noon to collect their Baskets. Privacy is respected as each family is assigned only an I.D. number and we are given only the number of family members and a few helpful details such as teens and extended family members in the household.

As we bring in our Food Pantry donations from now until the week of Thanksgiving we can be concentrating on traditional Thanksgiving food items – canned vegetables, fruits, and gravy, instant mashed potatoes, stuffing mix, cranberry sauce, muffin mixes, etc.

On Sunday November 20, 2011 we'll have our Thanksgiving Procession, bringing Thanksgiving food items to the front of the chancel at the start of worship. After worship food donations will be sorted on the library tables, and on Monday, November 21, 2011 bags will be packed, ready for pick up the following morning. Volunteers, along with the usual suspects, are needed to sort and pack!

Angels have always appeared at the last minute bearing turkeys and other perishables like butter, dinner rolls, and pies. These Angels are most welcome and their Thanksgiving goodies will be gratefully received!

Submitted by Irene Harbison,  
Outreach Committee



*First Church in Albany*  
*Give a Meal a Month*  
*- November -*



Canned meat, vegetables and soups. Coffee and cocoa. Paper and hygiene products.

Monetary donations are always welcome to help defray pantry expenses.

## **THANKSGIVING DINNER**

Come celebrate with your church family  
Everyone is invited

Sunday, November 20, 2011  
4:30 p.m.

You are asked to bring:

- \*Your own place setting (plates and silverware)
- \*A vegetable, salad or dessert

We also need 4 families to provide 5 pounds of mashed potatoes each.

So that we have enough food, please remember to cook for twice as many as you normally do. (If you normally cook for two of you, please make enough for four. If you normally cook for three, provide six servings, etc.)

The Congregational Life Committee will provide the turkey and gravy, "Presby stuffing", rolls and beverages.

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

As always, the only way to make this such a successful evening is by everyone pitching in and making the tasks involved to put it together that much easier. Please consider volunteering your time for a couple of hours.

If you have any questions please see Mary Wilson Hyde or email at [Daddyhyde@yahoo.com](mailto:Daddyhyde@yahoo.com).

## SESSION DIGEST

The following motions were made, seconded, and approved at the 9/13/11 meeting of Session:

Finance Committee moves that the Preliminary Budget for 2012 be accepted as presented.

That the baptism of Henry Ronald Hallenbeck, infant son of Dan and Megan be approved for 10/23/11.

Lois Hessberg, Clerk of Session

## NOTES FROM FINANCE

### *A Word about Stewardship*

Over the past month and a half you have had the opportunity to hear about and witness the Church's mission in-action. From your response to the devastating flood in Schoharie in helping to rebuild their community to supporting social service programs that address homelessness and new parent programs that aim to reduce child abuse you have helped the Church serve the less fortunate. Our Church has always had a strong mission focus. That focus starts at an early age with the help of parents that volunteer their time to teach your children on Sundays so they can learn the teachings of Christ and the Two Great Commandments and what it means to be a good Christian.



Additional opportunities for youth education and fellowship continue with their participation in the MSPY program which builds on the foundations learned earlier and culminates with the RPM group that sponsors the Spring mission-trip and midnight runs to New York City to again help with providing clothing to the homeless. All of

these great works cannot happen without a caring congregation.

Delmar Presbyterian is in a time of change as we begin to look for a permanent pastor. This pastor will be only the third permanent pastor in our 52 years as a congregation. We are off to a great start hiring who I feel, and hope you share the same feelings, is a great interim pastor as we look to clarify what the future Delmar Presbyterian Church looks and acts like. To that end I ask you speak to Pastor Bob or any of the Elders about what you want your Church to accomplish or provide. Do you want family movie nights? A bowling or golf league? Should our mission work look internationally?

Continuing on the theme of change we are building our budget to reflect the emphasis of mission in the church and education as well as bolstering our congregational life funding. As the Capital Campaign winds down and we've started to build a fund for the day that the roof needs to be replaced or the boiler breaks I want to thank you for your commitment to the vision of the campaign and the sacrifices you made so that future generations of congregants are not solely burdened by future capital needs.

I ask you to prayerfully consider your pledge to the Stewardship campaign in light of the fact that the capital campaign is drawing to a close. Your offering will allow the church to grow in new directions and ensure a vibrant congregation for the future.

Submitted by Dave Rees, Finance Chair

## HURRICANE IRENE UPDATE

Please consider an ongoing ministry of prayer and support to our sisters and brothers whose lives have been turned upside down. Winter is approaching and many homes and churches still have a long way to go toward restoration. If your congregation is able to pray, send volunteers, money, or supplies please contact the Presbytery office (518-273-4991) and we will connect you with the recovery coordinators at each site.

**Donations** – The Council has authorized a special fund to be set up for Hurricane Irene relief. Contributions may be sent right to the affected churches or to the Presbytery to ensure equitable distribution.

**North Blenheim** – They need skilled volunteers. A crew of volunteers who helped clean has gone and now they need to really start the rebuilding phase.

**Prattsville** – They are considering building a new community center with space for both the Methodist and RCA congregations, day care, and other facilities the whole town needs...to make an open, ecumenical space for the whole community. Right now they need money, later they will need skilled volunteers.

**Schoharie** –They are rebuilding their CE building first, and are already using it for worship, education, meetings, etc. They ask for prayer and encouragement, financial donations (settlement of insurance claim in process), and volunteers to aid with reconstruction

**Salem** – They ask for prayer, they're trying to discern where to put Sunday School during the winter. They also seek ideas for grant sources for the new building, to secure architects and other professionals.

Submitted by Cass Shaw, General Presbyter

**NOTES FROM  
BUILDING AND GROUNDS**



Join us for the Fall Clean-up Day on Saturday, November 5th, from 9 am -12 noon. Please come help to get the church and grounds ready for winter.

**Refreshments will be served!!!!**

Submitted by Nate Cady

## **WANTED: CHOIR MEMBERS!**



### **THE ALLELUIA CHOIR COULD USE YOU!**

**Positions Open:** In alto, soprano, tenor and bass sections.

**Physical Qualifications:** Must be able to carry light musical notes part way across the church sanctuary. Must have good vision to see director, ten feet away.

**Experience:** No applications accepted from persons who have not sung, hummed or whistled in the tub or shower at some time.

**Beginning wages:** Guaranteed satisfaction and joy in the service of the Lord.

**Fringe benefits:** Social security. We promise you the security of social fellowship with other fine members of the choir.

**Hours:** 1-1/2 hours on Thursday night at the church.

If interested call Mary Ingraham at 283-7190 or email [mingraham@weichertne.com](mailto:mingraham@weichertne.com)

### ***Milestones***

**With Sympathy and Prayer**

Howard Dybedock (9/25/2011)

The Hertz family mourns the loss of Erich's' father, who resided in the Chicago area.

### ***Hanging of the Greens***



Each Advent season, members of the church turn out to help decorate (and then in January, undecorate) the church. This celebration involves members of all ages, and we encourage you to become part of this wonderful tradition!

The decorating will be done **from 9:00 AM-12:00 Noon on Saturday, November 26**. A light lunch will be served following the decorating! The undecorating will take place on **Sunday, January 8, immediately following church**.

A sign-up board will appear in the Narthex prior to these dates with categories of decorating. Please sign up for what interests you, mark your calendars and then come join us. We really need strong, young, healthy gentlemen! (It is fun for all ages! RPMs and MSPYs welcome!).

Trish McGinn, Congregational Life-Fellowship Subcommittee

## SPORTS NEWS

**TRACK & FIELD:** October was a great month for Danika Jensen and Lindsay Cheu, who anchor the Bethlehem Central High School girls' varsity cross country team.

In the Saturday, October 1, Grout Run at Schenectady's Central Park, Danika and Lindsay led the Lady Eagles in a third place finish in the Division II team standings. Danika finished 4<sup>th</sup> with a time of 16:45.76. Lindsay was right on her heels, finishing 5<sup>th</sup> in 16:45.50.

On Sunday, October 9, the Lady Eagles placed 5<sup>th</sup> at the Manhattan Invitational in the Bronx. Lindsay finished in 17<sup>th</sup> place with a time of 16:38.0. Danika placed 21<sup>st</sup> with a time of 16:48.1.

Christopher Shaw, grandson of Patti Ellis, also represented BCHS in the October 1 Grout Run. He helped the Eagles' boys' varsity team capture the Division I team championship. Chris placed 14<sup>th</sup> with a time of 14:53.34.

While the younger generation was running locally, Ed Taft was jumping in Utah. He entered and took first place for his age group in the standing long jump at the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Huntsman World Senior Games in St. George, Utah. His jump of 2.36 meters just missed the world record of 2.38 meters.

Ed and Pam were out West hiking with Bryan and Pat Grimwood. They also joined forces with Ron and Carolyn Tweedie in the Zion National Park (see article below).

Submitted by Bob Lynk

### ***DPC Folks Get Around!***

### *~ Ladies Who Lunch ~*

*Wednesday, NOVEMBER 16<sup>th</sup>*

*12:00 PM*



*Bring your own lunch  
Dessert and beverage provided*

*Program: Flower Arranging with our own  
Master Arranger, Dot Geyer*

*Make a real flower arrangement  
for yourself or as a gift.*

*Cost approx. \$15*

**NOTE:** *Deadline for arrangement sign-up is  
Wed., Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>*

*Use Sign-up sheet in Narthex or  
phone Dot at 439-9279*

*Come for lunch whether or not you will be  
making an arrangement.*

*Last lunch of the year. LWL business meeting  
to be scheduled, date TBA on the 16<sup>th</sup>.*





Former DPC members, Pat & Brian Grimwood, along with the Tafts, visited five of Utah's National Parks, starting with The Arches and ending with Zion. The hiking was fun and scenery was spectacular. At Zion, we met up with the Tweedies who were starting out on their trip which includes the Grand Canyon. We were following the Tweedie's itinerary which the Mulls followed last year and passed on to us!

Submitted by Pam Taft

## Letters

*(From the Mengel Family)*  
Dear Delmar Prez,

We would like to thank your kind congregation for all the cards, notes and phone calls they have offered to us over the past months; not to mention the choir (his dear friends!) singing at the service, the wonderful reception put on by the deacons and your presence at Frank's memorial service. Your kindness will not be forgotten. You were a very special part of Frank's life.

Sincerely,  
June Lee-Mengel, Frank Mengel, Jr. Carol Pightling, and families

Dear Friends,  
It seems like only yesterday we were waiting for summer to arrive and now fall has arrived.

The pantry has seen some very busy days. We are averaging over 20 new families each month. Some of our pantry essentials are often in short supply.

Cooler temperatures and the added costs of keeping warm always seem to put a strain on budgets and holidays are just around the corner. We will start registering for Thanksgiving baskets and Christmas gifts next week.

Volunteers are in short supply. Wednesdays especially seem to find us short-handed. If you or someone you know would like to volunteer once or more each month, training and support will be provided. I can be reached at First Church 463-4449, or at home 732-2681.

Your continued support and partnership in our ministry means so much to those we serve.

Thank you for caring and sharing,  
Rev. Barbara Morgan, Community Outreach



**WERE YOU SEEN BY  
THE CHURCH MOUSE?**

*Dave Austin - was seen weeding the flower beds and around the sign on Delaware Avenue*

*Dwight and Lindsey Cheu - were seen changing a light bulb in the sanctuary*

*Ed Taft - was seen mowing the lawn while Ray was away*

*Many thanks!*

## **POINTSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS**

Orders are now being taken for the Christmas poinsettias that decorate our Sanctuary during the Christmas season. Poinsettias are available in your choice of red, white or pink for **\$9.50** each, and **may**

*be taken home after worship on Christmas Eve.*

**Deadline: Sunday, December 4, 2011**

Please include your payment with this form and bring or mail it to the church office, Or . Thank you!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Total # Poinsettias: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity/Color:

Red \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_

— Pink \_\_\_\_\_

# *Holiday Craft Bazaar*

presented by the MSPYs  
**Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>**  
immediately following worship



The **perfect** place to buy  
ornaments, teacher & bus driver gifts,  
and delicious stocking stuffers!

Proceeds will benefit Flood Relief  
in Schoharie & Greene Counties

## **2011 Cookie and Candy Christmas Festival**

What a pleasure it has been to “share a little Christmas” with all of you for these past eleven years; however, it is time for me to “close shop” and find another niche or two to explore.

It has been a joy to see the beautiful and yummy cookies and candy that you spent so much time to make. It has been truly a joy to have Eunice Jones and Lynn Taylor beside me to help, to have a fun-loving group of helpers, the set-up and clean-up crew, the children’s table, and to have Dave Howland and the singers give us wonderful Christmas music.

I hope someone will continue the Festival tradition and develop it in their own way, but as always, to give the proceeds to our friends and neighbors in our own community. Please keep this a family event in our lovely church.

Thank you all, Eleanor Norrix