

Worship - Sunday 10 AM
Sunday School - during worship
(Sep-Jun)

Twins Talk

January 2026

PO Box 303
Holland Patent, NY 13354
315-865-5754
Email: fpreshp@gmail.com
Website: twinchurches.org



Pastor's Corner

Happy New Year! What an exciting day: a new beginning celebrated heartily with feast and song - AND shoveling! Who was it that upset Mother Nature! Maybe not upset but anxious because so many humans love the snow and we can all appreciate its beauty, once its been removed from where we walk and drive.

Winter certainly came to us quickly and early last year! And for those "dreaming of a White Christmas." YOU WIN!!

It is wonderful that our species developed time and seasons and figured out it made perfect sense to begin again every 365.25 days. Today is a day we can look around us and in the mirror hoping for renewal, better days, and healthier ways.

Our annual New Beginning is an exciting, upbeat celebration looking forward, looking upward, looking all around - with Hope as our primary emotion. For this day especially we get to embrace the sensations of beginning again, a second chance if you will, to strive and achieve good things!!

And then 1/2/26 comes along! OK, it might take longer than that but soon, we begin to drift back to the reality of our lives and recognize it's hard to make changes, to begin again, to embrace the potential in ourselves and others. Nuts!

Well... this year I invite you to see the pattern, recognize it is life's cycle and gently begin new things. Find something you wanted to do or work on or create and ***tell someone about it***. Like members of your small group. And if you haven't got one, start one. Share a hope or a dream and begin to reach for it - one small step a time. Take the action of sharing this new thing with others, the more people you tell, the more you will be determined to carry on and accomplish it!

OK, so I'll go first!! It's time for another Dry January, a month I have celebrated for the last 20 or so January's. Family tendencies suggest this is important so off we go. Then just to make it either easier or harder (I'm not sure which) I will begin "again" a workout regimen and diet. There - I shared so now I am really on the hook! (Prayer helps a bit I must admit!)

Share your hopes and dreams with others. Be brave, be trusting, be secure knowing each of us has things we hope for and dream of achieving, and like all things in each of our lives, those dreams always require that first step!

Steve

"No one has ever seen God; but if we love each other, God lives in us!" 1 John 4:12



Session Scene

- Gaby McGhee's family has agreed to fulfill Gaby's desire to purchase new chairs for the choir.
- The church also received a generous donation in Gaby's name to continue the Peace Pole Project.
- The next meeting will be on Jan. 18 to approve the budget for 2026 prior to the Annual Meeting.

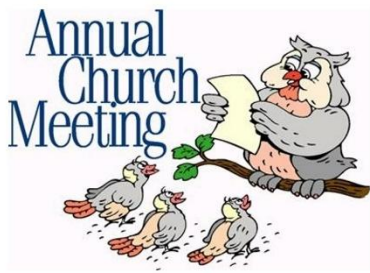
Golden Knight Spotlight



Being a Golden Knight is a **commitment to being an outstanding citizen and becoming a well rounded individual**. I love working with my students and their commitment to making the music program a **welcoming and enjoyable** experience for anyone who joins!

Shawn DePalma
Orchestra Director





January 25, 2026

***In the Sanctuary after worship
followed by our ever popular
(and delicious) Coffee/Fellowship Hour***

***All reports due by Jan 10
for the Annual Report
to Carol Heburn
Email: carol.heburn@gmail.com***

Come join the Learning to Pray Small Group

Ever wonder whether God is listening to your prayers? Do you think, maybe, you are not praying in the right way? Maybe you wonder that there is more to praying than you are aware? If this is you, then come to Janet Stengel's 5-session small group that will help answer your questions and provide some practical tips on what a meaningful prayer practice for you can look like - all while having a lot of fun and fellowship.

Time: 9:30 - 11 am

Where: Church Meeting Room

When: Tuesdays

Jan 20, 27

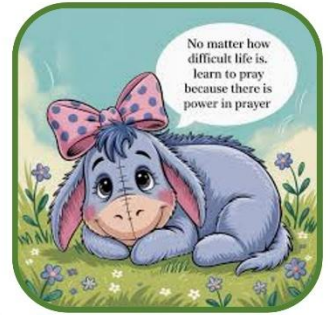
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Can't make all the sessions, then come to those that you can.

Sign up by January 10 with:

Bonnie Tryon: Phone 518-231-4695 or email at btryon12@gmail.com

Janet Stengel: Phone 315-725-4664 or email at jastengel77@gmail.com



TUBA CHRISTMAS AT THE CAPITAL 2025

Can you find . . . Vicky Allen
Janet Stengel (twice)
Trent Fox
Shane Fox

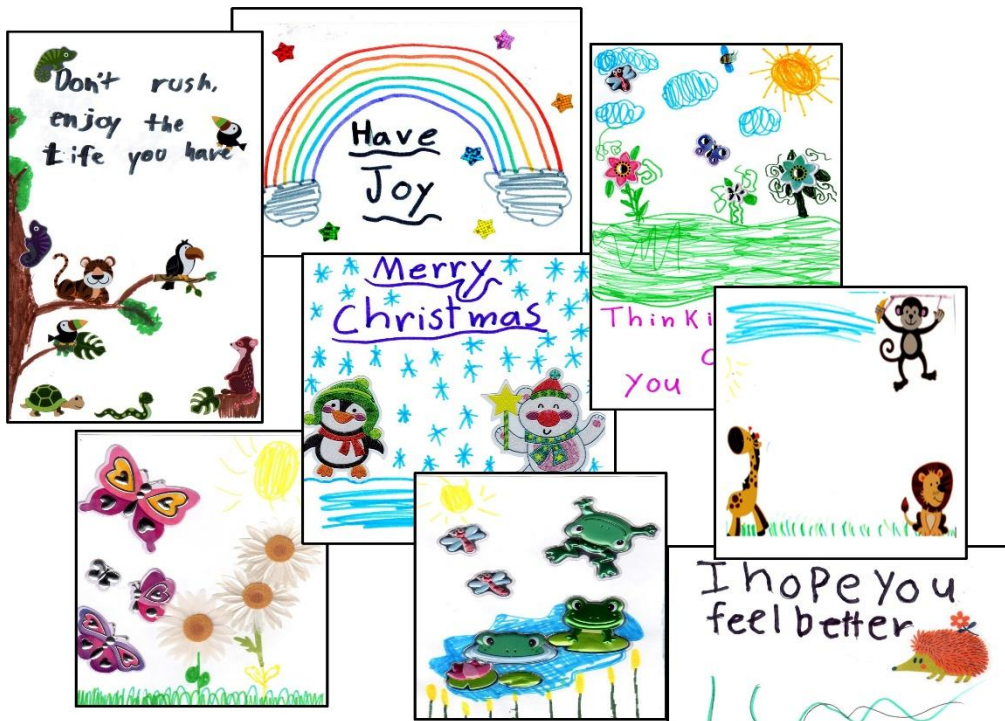
Unclaimed Containers



The collection of unclaimed containers on the church kitchen windowsill is ever growing! Check them out and if one (or more) belong to you, please take it home.

We greatly appreciate all of our very generous cooks, and want to make sure these treasures find their proper homes before anything happens to them.





In honor of our beloved Sunday School teacher, Gail Putnam,

the class she taught for many, many years brought back a project she started of creating hand-made gifts that the children gave out to the congregation every year on the first Sunday of Advent. Gifts from the past have included bookmarks, tree ornaments, cookies, and luminary kits. This year the children made greeting/note cards (pictured above) that can be sent and shared with anyone you choose.

Cards are still available so if you would like one or more, contact Carol Heburn at 315-865-5307, call/text to 315-725-3950, or email to carol.heburn@gmail.com.



I am not saying snowmen make the best greeters. After all, their verbal skills leave a lot to be desired. But they do have two attributes every greeter needs: be present and smile.

Let's give credit to all the church greeters who brave the winter elements to make everyone feel welcomed.



December 2025

Dec 7 – Karen VanGorder
Dec 14 – Janet Lanning
Dec 21 – Fellowship Comm. - Pageant
Dec 28 – Vicky Allen, Janet Stengel

Janet Lanning – Phone 315-941-7409
 Email jlasc@me.com





January

- 2 Mickey Howard
- 3 Jim Allen
- 4 Ryan Carnright
- 6 Brenda & Paul Castle (A)
- 9 Beverly Seifried
- 12 Rich Mueller
A. J. Bosman
Carol Heburn
- 13 Kathy Lemieux
- 15 Lisa Burnham
Sarah (Clemmons) Palmer
- 17 Mark Niedzielski
- 18 Christopher Wall
- 20 Evelyn Clark
- 24 Ruth Walker
Karl Werbovetz
Patrick Phillips
- 26 Walt Hagues
Tom Kraft
- 28 Jessica (Aubry Meade)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Worship Schedule

Jan 4 - Steve Vance - *Communion*

Jan 11 - Bonnie Tryon

Jan 18 - Steve Vance – *Elder/Deacon Installation*

Jan 25 - Steve Vance - *Annual Meeting*

Events

Choir Practice - Thursdays at 5:15 pm

Jan 4 - Mission Committee meeting - after worship

Jan 7 - Stone Soup - *see Betsy Allen for time*

Jan 18 - Session meeting - *after worship*

Jan 20 - Small Group - Learning to Pray
9:30 in meeting room (see article)

Jan 25 - Annual Meeting - *after worship*

Jan 27 - Small Group - Learning to Pray
9:30 in meeting room (see article)

*Check our website at "twinchurches.org"
for a complete calendar of events*

bits & pieces

Prayers are asked for:

- Janet Stengel's niece and her foster child as they deal with some challenging behaviors.
- Dick & Gail Hoffman's daughter, Kim who was ill and hospitalized. Gratefully, she has recovered and joined us for Christmas Eve Service.
- Vince Vannicola who continues to have good and bad days with serious health problems. Having visitors seems to perk him up.
- Lynne & Merritt Howard on the unexpected and sudden death of Lynne's older brother, David Gingrich.
- Bob VanGorder who had sinus surgery. Prayers also for answers to his ongoing health issues.
- Carol Beasley's mother, June, who was admitted to the hospital. She is 101 years old, is now home and doing better.

Joys are shared for:

- Vicky Allen and all of us who got to visit with Vicky's daughter, Kerkira and her friend, Spencer when they joined us for worship.
- Tina & Jon Dziekan who have recently moved to the Nashville area and are very excited to be there. Their son, Josh, is still in NY, but will be joining them. Their new address is 210 Hollow Tree Circle, Castalian Springs, TN 37031.

Prayer Chain - Peg Curtacci phone: 315-867-7898 or email: [pcurtacci.1947@gmail](mailto:pcurtacci.1947@gmail.com)