

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

# Twins Talk

## February 2025

PO Box 303  
Holland Patent, NY 13354  
315-865-5754  
Email: [fpreshp@gmail.com](mailto:fpreshp@gmail.com)  
Website: [twinchurches.org](http://twinchurches.org)



## Pastor's Corner

Welcome to "Deep Winter!" Remember those days when we would speak of gentler winters, assuming Global Warming had something to do with the last few years of more temperate winters? WRONG! Up here in the Frozen North we have had measurable snow everyday for the last week and a rousing 10 below zero this AM.

I hope you are staying warm, active, and happy as January turns to February. Here are a few ideas to consider for activity: Work with

Betsy Allen on Feb 5 to make soup, then join us on Feb 9 for the "Souper" Bowl Sunday luncheon and AED Demo (that's two soup chances in one week!)

Or join us for the start-up of a new small group on 2/5. For an added thrill join us at 10:30 and then make/eat soup!

Or follow Gaby to Hope House and volunteer feeding a very appreciative group of hungry people. Or volunteer for Foothills duty. Or join a committee? Or resurrect a committee? Or start something new you like!

The best antidote for winter is to get out in it and feel the quiet, then join a noisy group of humans to get warm with seek joy!!

As we age one can become less active, less resilient, less energized!

And more interested in connection, more wanting to act on their faith lives, more interested in giving hugs to strangers! It's all in the balance of things.

Please join us Sunday mornings for worship and fellowship. And of you need a ride PLEASE let us know. We promise it will be a round trip!

This Sunday's readings (Luke 4:21-30; 1 Corinthians 13) are continuations of last weeks. Luke follows Jesus in his early ministry while Paul exhorts a struggling church to remember why they started. Both provide beautiful verses and warm invitations to the Spirit. Preview them if you can, it will make Sunday morning time together more interesting, maybe even warmer!!

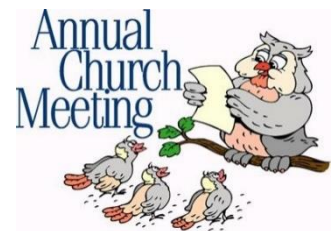
Whatever you do - please note that life is short, seek joy whenever you can and know you are never alone!

Steve

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

The Annual Meeting was held on Sunday, January 26 following worship.  
Here are the highlights of the meeting:

- Bob VanGorder was elected to succeed Todd Finn as Elder.
- Gaby McGhee was elected Member-at-Large to the Nominating Committee.
- Treasurer's Report – We have a healthy balance sheet for 2024 and a solid 2025 budget in place thanks to your generous gifts and controlled spending.
- 2025 Budget was presented.
  - A suggestion was made to add an amount for the Pastor to use at his/her discretion for local emergency support.
- New Business: Gaby McGhee expressed a need for volunteers to help cook and serve at Hope house. (See the full article in this edition.)





## Session Scene

### Committee Reports:

- **Deacons** – As the needs of our congregation grows, we are developing a committee and process to assist the Deacons and assure all of us the care needed is provided.
- **Safety** – on Sunday, February 9 during coffee hour, there will be an informational presentation on using the church's AED (defibrillator).
- **Worship** – Pastor Steve Vance requested quarterly meetings.
- **Per Capita** – an article will be written for Twins Talk to explain exactly what this is and where the funds go. (See article included in this issue.)
- **New Business** – It was proposed by St. David's Episcopal Church that we work with other local churches to sponsor a Thanksgiving Luncheon for area folks with no where to go. With further details we are interested in working with them as is the Unitarian Church of Barneveld.
- The next Session meeting will be March 2 following worship.

## What is Per Capita?



Per Capita is the mechanism for funding the higher councils of the church: Presbyteries, Synods, and the General Assembly and their mission and administration. It is how Presbyterians equitably share the costs of moving the church forward in the 21st century.

Although we include this assessment in our budget (based on how many members we have for that year), please remember that we pay this amount whether they contribute or not.

If you are a church member, you are invited to share in the ministry of all Presbyterian churches and to fairly pay those who serve at all denominational levels by paying your per capita amount. For 2025, each member's share is \$46.00.

For those with pledge envelopes, there is a special envelope for per capita. For others, you may contribute by whatever method you prefer, but please identify your donation as Per Capita.



*Thank you!*

On behalf of the Fellowship Committee, thank you to ALL of you who contributed food or drinks on December 29, 2024. You were very generous! And that was a good thing considering the large crowd that stayed after worship for Coffee Hour! We needed 3 large tables for lunch items and desserts. We set up every card table we have, and every chair was filled. The dining room looked lovely, decorated for winter and with our Christmas tree still up. Our guests seemed to have a wonderful time, and no one hurried away. It took many of us to make this Community Sunday successful. We are grateful for your help. (We will try to not have to ask for food donations again until Easter Sunday!)

## bits & pieces

### Prayers are asked for:

- Vince Vannicola who is home alone and could use visitors on a regular basis.
- Nick Ruszkowski and Susan Schneider (Ember Rose's parents) as they work through some difficult times.
- Janet Broadbent who was happy to be out of the hospital and back at Easter Star, and was very grateful for the good care she got from the hospital staff. Unfortunately, she has fallen, broken her hip, is back in the hospital and will probably have surgery.

### Joys are shared for:

- Betsy Allen whose caring neighbor shoveled her out and got her off the roof!

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

## Super Souper Bowl Sunday



**February 9, 2025**

**Hot, Hearty, Mouthwatering  
Homemade Soups  
Served during coffee hour**

**Donations accepted to benefit the  
Foothills Food Pantry**

**Sponsored by the Mission Committee**

## Informational Presentation for On-site Defibrillator



**Sunday, Feb 9  
during Coffee Hour**

**NOTE:** This is not certified training, but will provide basic information on the use of this life-saving equipment.

*Sponsored by the Safety Committee*



## February 2025

Feb 2 – Gail Brett – *Scout Sunday*  
Feb 9 – Souper Bowl – *Mission Comm.*  
Feb 16 – Kathy Harvey/Bonnie Tryon  
Feb 23 – Brenda Capodiferro

Janet Lanning – Phone 315-941-7409  
Email [jlasc@me.com](mailto:jlasc@me.com)

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



02-14-2000



## Meet Goliath!

Sunday School teachers are always looking for ways to make the Bible come to life. Our children got to experience how David might have felt when he faced Goliath.

After learning the story (which you can read for yourself in 1 Samuel 17), they faced a life-sized image of the scary giant – over 9' tall! Several eyes got bigger when they realized he was really that big.

You can see it for yourself – as you leave the sanctuary, before going up the steps to the hallway, look to your left. It's the only space we could find where he would fit.

The children then got to try their skill at taking on Goliath with a real sling shot (and cotton ball ammunition). After many tries, and some lucky shots, we all agreed that like David, we need God's help to make us successful.







## Foothills Rural Community Ministry

We Need Your Help



**Foothills is in desperate need of volunteers who make it possible to help those in our community who depend on FRCM programs.**

**The greatest needs right now are:**

- **Food Pantry** – help carrying groceries upstairs to client cars.
- **Thrift Shop** – help in the shop for 2 or 4-hour shifts

**Many more volunteer options are available!**

**It can't happen without you!**

Call 315-865-5854

Email: [frmin@gmail.com](mailto:frmin@gmail.com)

Website: [foothillsruralcommunityministry.org](http://foothillsruralcommunityministry.org)



**Twin Churches  
Volunteers Needed  
4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday  
of every month**

**Cook: 12 – 2:30 pm  
Serve: 3 – 5 pm**

Hope House now serves over 90,000 meals per year. There are over 150 volunteers per week from over 70 churches and community organizations who donate their time and talent.

Gaby McGhee has headed up this volunteer effort for our church for many years, but currently she is the **only one from our church** who is there.

If you can spare a few hours monthly or once in a while, what a difference you can make.

Contact Gaby at 315-225-6675 or [hoffbeck@gmail.com](mailto:hoffbeck@gmail.com).



### February

- |    |  |
|----|--|
| 1  | Jon Dziekan                                      |
| 7  | Ken Allen<br>Lori LeBuis                         |
| 8  | Mary Vannicola                                   |
| 9  | Paul Sears                                       |
| 13 | Larry Beasley<br>Laura (Kalk) Gurdo              |
| 14 | Jim Moseman                                      |
| 15 | Cathy Vannicola                                  |
| 16 | Trent Fox  |
| 17 | Kathryn Evans<br>Jim Marconi                     |
| 18 | Jim Vannicola                                    |
| 19 | Sarah DePalma                                    |
| 20 | Julia Racha<br>Scott Wozna                       |
| 21 | David Dunn<br>Allen Solomon                      |
| 26 | Joshua Dziekan                                   |
| 28 | Heidi Taubert<br>Linda Bamford<br>Abigail Howard |

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Worship Schedule

**Feb 2** - Steve Vance – Communion

**Feb 9** - Steve Vance

**Feb 16** – Bonnie Tryon

**Feb 23** – Larry Beasley

*Steve Vance will be on vacation Feb 15 - 23. Larry Beasley will be available for Pastoral needs while Steve is away. (Phone: 315-865-5096 or Email: [larryjbeasley@gmail.com](mailto:larryjbeasley@gmail.com))*

### Events

**Choir Practice** – Thursdays at 5:30 pm

**Feb 5** - Stone Soup - see Betsy Allen for time

**Feb 9** - Souper Bowl - Donations accepted for Foothills Food Pantry

**Feb 25** - Hope House Volunteer Day -  
Cook 12-2:30, Serve 3-5 - Contact Gaby McGhee

Check our website at "[twinchurches.org](http://twinchurches.org)"  
for a complete calendar of events