

Reformed Church of Palmyra

236 Canandaigua St.

Palmyra, NY 14522



The Messenger

Reformed Church of Palmyra Newsletter

November, December 2023

If you received this by regular mail, please consider receiving it by e-mail. Contact Carol Fanelli at 716-512-0589 or church email to be switched.

The Christmas Bible Story: The Nativity of Jesus Christ

Christmas is a season of spiritual reflection on the foundations of the Christian faith. It's also a celebration of the arrival of Jesus. Christmas is a time for Christians to praise God's love for the world through the birth of the Christ child: Jesus. The Bible tells of His birth hundreds of years before, fulfilling prophecies from the Old Testament. Let us give thanks for the glory of Jesus and the eternal life given to all who repent and believe in Him! May God bless you this Christmas and beyond.

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." (Isaiah 9:6)

The Birth of Jesus Christ



Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel"(which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

The Shepherds and the Angels

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!" They went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. And at the end of eight days he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.



The Visit of the Wise Men

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.

Jesus Announces the Good News

Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near.

Repent and believe the good news!"

Reformed Church of Palmyra¹

Address: 236 Canandaigua St., Palmyra, NY 14522

Webpage: www.palmyrareformedchurch.org

Email Address:

palmyrareformedchurch236@gmail.com

Facebook: [palmyrareformedchurch](https://www.facebook.com/palmyrareformedchurch)

Phone: 315-597-4341



Accessible to Persons with Disabilities

¹Member of Reformed Church in America

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Consistory:

Elder

Preston Smith	315-576-8680
Chris Bucknam	315-576-7791
David Ondra	585-831-1941
Rick Sitterley	585-329-0307

Deacon

Dave Fanelli	585-545-0908
Todd Pipitone	585-469-5699
Josh Hale	585-305-5532

Petr Premyslovsky	Treasurer	315-879-1791
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Sunday School Officers:

Superintendent	Lisa Premyslovsky	315-878-1813
Ass't Supt.	Jack Thompson	585-509-0792

PRAYER SUPPORT

If you would like Prayer Support, please:

- ♥ Call Preston Smith (315-576-8680) or a Consistory Member
- ♥ Leave a message on the church phone 315-597-4341
- ♥ Fill out a Prayer Request Form, found in the tract rack in the Sanctuary foyer
- ♥ Come to a Prayer Meeting on Wednesday

Information regarding our service

- **Sunday School**, for all ages, is from 9:30-10:15 a.m.
- The **Offertory plates** are not passed; they are in the Sanctuary on the back table and table by the elevator.
- **Venmo** is available.
- Our service is **live streamed via YouTube**.
- **Closed-Circuit TV** is available downstairs in the Comfy Room
- **Free daily devotionals, CD's and DVDs** are available in the sanctuary on the back table
- A **Nursery** for young children is downstairs
- **Refreshments** are served in the Fellowship Hall downstairs after the service.

Please Keep in Prayer

Contact Carol Fanelli (716-512-0589) to have a name added and also let her know when a name can come off.

Church Family:

- ♥ **Cornie VanderWerf** (he is in RGH, possible stroke)
- ♥ **Andrew LaGrand**
- ♥ **Ron Bushart** (he is being deployed to Turkey)
- ♥ **Ed Fickess** (friend of David Kish, stage 4 cancer)
- ♥ **Debbie Fox** (Elma Fox's daughter-in-law, ICU in Newark Hospital)
- ♥ **Susan Johnson** (a friend of Amy Sitterley's)
- ♥ **Jessica** (Lenny & Roberta's granddaughter)
- ♥ **Giovanni Manes** (his grandparents are friends of Amy Sitterley)
- ♥ **Josh** (Marlene Slocum's nephew)
- ♥ **Lucas** (Mary Hawkins' grandson)
- ♥ **Dan Buchiere** (Rocco's friend)



Community, Country, and the World:

- The local organizations who offer help:
 - Palmyra/Macedon Food Pantry
 - Green Angels
 - Good Neighbor Fund
 - Grace House
 - CareNet Crisis Center
 - East Palmyra Christian School
 - Palmyra Community Center
- Those in the military and our veterans
- Replace hatred with love in people's hearts
- Blessings and protection to those in danger in the world
- The thousands who have/are suffering from natural disasters
- Our government officials
- Those who must practice their faith in secret for fear of being killed
- Missionaries that our church support
- All missionaries around the world

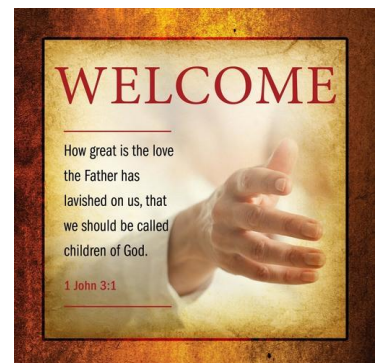
New Address:

- **Roy Vanderwall's** new address is Thompson Hospital, Pines Long Term Rehab, Room 151, Canandaigua, NY 14424.
- As of Nov. 17, **Eunice Reynolds** will be a resident at Victory View Assisted Living.

A BIG Welcome to our new members:

Elena Colon, Donna Edmunds, Sean Edmunds, Diana Holbein, Mike Holbein, Matt LaPlant, Caleb Mason, Joanna Mason, Cheryl Mason, Peter Mason, and Marcy White.

Wonderful to have you with us!



Happy Birthday:

PLEASE, let Carol Fanelli know of any special occasions that you would like to share with our church family

Nov.	4	Milton Mashner
	9	Roberta Main
	10	Scott Thompson
	12	Ezekiel Smith
	12	Terry Gendron
	12	Linda VanderMeere
	15	Petr Premyslovsky
	16	Lucy Fordon
	16	Marcia Marsille
	16	Mysty Wadsworth
	17	Carrie Nies
	19	Mackenzie Thompson
	19	Joshua Thompson
	20	Diana Holbein
	22	Oslo Hullings



Dec.	6	Lonnie Hohenboken
	12	Josh Hale
	13	Len Main
	18	Jade Hale
	20	Dave Ondra
	21	Bill Hoffman
	22	Mylah Thompson
	26	Ella Deruyter
	27	Elijah Edmunds
	29	Tim DeVey
	29	Suzie Smith
	30	Derrek Thompson
	31	Steve Marsille

Happy Anniversary:

Dec.	9	Dave & Carol Fanelli
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nov. 2 – Ladies Night Out

- Ladies, we will meet at **Cross Park restaurant at 6:00 pm** for dinner
- ALL LADIES ARE WELCOME.
- Cross Park** is in East Newark on Rt. 31 across from the Dept. of Transportation
- Please let Carol Fanelli (716-512-0589) know if you are going, so reservations can be made

Nov. 11 - Volunteergiving at 6:00 pm

- For anyone *who volunteers at church* (that means everyone)
- The turkey is being provided by Josh & Glendy Hale and will be cooked at church
- There will be a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall for rest of the dinner

Nov. 19 – Annual Congregational Meeting after morning service. The meeting will follow a lasagna luncheon. We vote on the budget for 2024 plus and will be voting for Consistory members.

Nov. 23 – Thanksgiving Day service will be held at 10:00am. This is a community service – invite all! The special offering taken will benefit the Palmyra/Macedon Food Pantry.



On Nov. 26 – Angel Tree Names from Wayne County Nursing Home are available. It has been our tradition to give to the residents through WCNH Angel Tree. If you would a name to buy for, please see Carol F. The gifts need to be brought back to the church on Dec. 10 (wrapped and name attached).

Nov. 26 – Day of Fellowship luncheon after service

December is Poinsettia Month:

If you wish, bring in a poinsettia in memory of or in honor of a loved one. Be sure to tell Carol Fanelli so she can add your name to our Poinsettia Memorial List.



Communion will be held Dec. 3. Please contact Preston or a Consistory member to have communion brought to you if you cannot come for the church. Gluten-free bread will be available.

Dec. 3 – Christmas Cookie Baking Day. Adults, please bring in cookies the children can decorate, make or bake. We would love to share with them the special recipes/memories from *your* families.

Dec. 9 – The kids will have a Saturday of movies at 3:00pm for Christmas. All are welcome. We will let you know what the movies will be.



Dec. 17 – Christmas Luncheon and Program
See the Nativity Story comes to life. Ham and drinks will be provided; please bring a dish to pass.

Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve Service at 7:00pm. Also, this is a community service – all are invited.



Dec. 25 – Christmas Day - The day Jesus was born.

New Year's Eve – A new year in which we can share God's love with the rest of the world.

Please feel free to take a book out of the Library (in the hallway downstairs). The books are for sharing.

Anyone who would like to take over decorating the Fellowship Hall, please contact Roberta and Len Main (they have all the decorations).

Children are a gift, not a distraction. The sound of children in the church is the sound of Jesus keeping his promises; it is the sound of His church that lives on and never dies. Please welcome children and give a smile of encouragement to their parents.

From Grace Presbyterian Church

Mission of Month - first Sunday of each month. A special offering is taken on that Sun.

- ♥ **Nov. 5 – Postage to help cover the cost for Operation Christmas Child**
- ♥ **Dec. 3 – Church World Service**

Christian Education meetings are the 2nd Sunday of the month during Fellowship Time. Grab a coffee and snack and please meet in the kitchen about 12:15.

Nov. 12 & Dec. 10

Morning Senior Bible Study starts at 11:00 am.

Lunch is provided by Emily.

Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Dec. 6, 13, 20, 27

Women's Mission Ministry:

Nov. 2

- * **"Ladies Night Out"**

Dec. 4

- * Decorate Fellowship Hall Christmas tree
- * Each lady, please, bring a Christmas story or poem to share

- * There will be a Cookie Exchange between the ladies at the meeting. Please bring 3-4 doz. cookies
- * Dec. 17 - Christmas Luncheon
- * Fruit baskets & cards for shut-ins



Educational/Media Night:

- **Nov. 8** is Part 3 of the book of Acts.
- **Dec. 9** – There will be a **special movie for the children at 3:00** in celebration of Christmas

Bible Study is held every 3rd, 4th & 5th Wed. of the month. ALL are invited!

Men's Breakfast at 8:00 am. Please bring a breakfast item and your bible.

Nov. 18 & Dec. 16

Nov. 4 – Turn you clocks back 1 hour.

Reformed Church doctrine is based on:



THANK YOU

Thank you to our **Bible Study leaders, Sunday School teachers, Jr. Church supervisors & various committee members, our Consistory members and ALL who assist with the church.**

Thank you from the Women's Ministry to **ALL** who helped with Canaltown Days Dutch Fritter Sale and the Chicken-N-Biscuit dinner. All monies collected will be used for mission work.



Our thanks to the ladies who brought in items for the "Cozy Evening In" basket the Women's Group gave to the East Palmyra Christian School for their Harvest Fest. It was very successful for the School.

Thank you to **Cheryl Mason** for sending out special occasion greeting cards to our church family.

Our thanks to **Lisa Premyslovsky** for sending out the bulletin each week to our members who cannot attend church.

Thanks to those who brought in shoeboxes and items for them for **Operation Christmas Child.**



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

CALENDAR

Nov. 1 – Bible Study at 11:00am & lunch
 Nov. 1 – Consistory at 7:00pm
 Nov. 2 – Ladies Night Out
 Nov. 4 – Turn Clocks back 1 hr. for Daylight Saving Time
 Nov. 5 – Mission of the Month
 Nov. 5 – Packing Day for Operation Christmas
 Child shoeboxes
 Nov. 8 – Bible Study at 11:00am & lunch
 Nov. 8 – Educational Media Night 7:00pm
 Nov. 11 – Turkey Dinner for members
 Nov. 12 – Christian Education meeting 12:15am
 Nov. 15, 22, 29 – Bible Study at 11:00am &
 lunch
 – 7:00 pm Bible Study
 Nov. 18 – Men’s Breakfast 8:00am
 Nov. 19 – Congregational luncheon and meeting.
 Nov. 23 – Thanksgiving Day Service 10:00am
 Nov. 26 – Names from Angel Tree at Wayne
 County Nursing Home

Nov. 26 – Day of Fellowship luncheon
 Dec. 3 – Communion Sunday
 Dec. 3 – Mission of the Month
 Dec. 3 – Cookie baking day for the holiday
 Dec. 4 – Women’s Ministry 7:00pm
 Dec. 6 – Bible Study at 11:00am & lunch
 Dec. 6 – Consistory at 7:00pm
 Dec. 9 – Children’s Christmas movies 3:00pm
 Dec. 10 – Christian Education meeting at 12:15
 Dec. 13 – Bible Study at 11:00am with lunch
 Dec. 13 – Media Education Night 3:00pm
 Dec. 16 – Men’s Breakfast 8:00am
 Dec. 17 – Christmas Luncheon and Program
 Dec. 20, 27 – Bible Study at 11:00 am & lunch
 – 7:00 pm Bible Study.
 Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve Service 7:00pm
 Dec. 25 – Christmas Day
 Dec. 31 – Day of Fellowship luncheon
 Dec. 31 – New Year’s Eve



See Carol Fanelli or phone at 716-512-0589 or email (palmyrareformedchurch236@gmail.com). to sign up

Worship Leaders

Nov. 19 – Rev. Don White
 All other Sundays are Preston Smith

Greeter/Usher:

Nov.	5	Len & Roberta Main
	12	David Ondra
	19	Premyslovsky family
	26	Rick & Amy Sitterley
Dec.	3	Bill & Emily Smith
	10	Jack & Deb Thompson
	17	Chris Bucknam
	24	Dave & Carol Fanelli
	31	Hale family

Flowers:

Nov.	5	Preston & Emily Smith
	12	Elaine, Alan & Kathy Bushart in loving memory of Gordon, Doug Bushart
	19	Bob & Linda VanderMeere in loving memory of their son, Stephen VanderMeere
	26	Marlene Slocum
Dec.	3	
	10	
	17	Poinsettia Memorial
	24	Month
	31	



Refreshments:

Nov.	5	Glendy Hale & Carrie Nies
	12	Joyce Bucknam & Carol Fanelli
	19	Audrey Hohenboken & Diana Holbein

	26	Raquel Kish & Roberta Main
Dec.	3	Cheryl Mason & Ashley McMullen
	10	Carrie Nies & Laurie Pipitone
	17	Christmas Party
	24	Lisa Premyslovsky & Marleen Slocum
	31	Emily E. Smith & Emily A. Smith



Pre-School Sunday School

Nov.	5	Lisa Premyslovsky
	12	Emily A. Smith
	19	David Premyslovsky
	26	Thomas Premyslovsky
Dec.	3	Lisa Premyslovsky
	10	Emily A. Smith
	17	David Premyslovsky
	24	Thomas Premyslovsky
	31	Lisa Premyslovsky

Jr. Church/Nursery

Nov.	5	Chris, Audrey Hohenboken, Brennan Pipitone
	12	Steven & Brittany Hullings, Kerstin Pipitone
	19	Devin & Ella Deruyter, David P
	26	Lisa, Jeff, Spencer
Dec.	3	Elena Colon, Glendy Hale, Kerstin
	10	David & Raquel Kish, Thomas
	17	Chris & Audrey H., Brennan P.
	24	Steven & Brittany Hullings Kerstin P.
	31	Devin & Ella Deruyter David P.

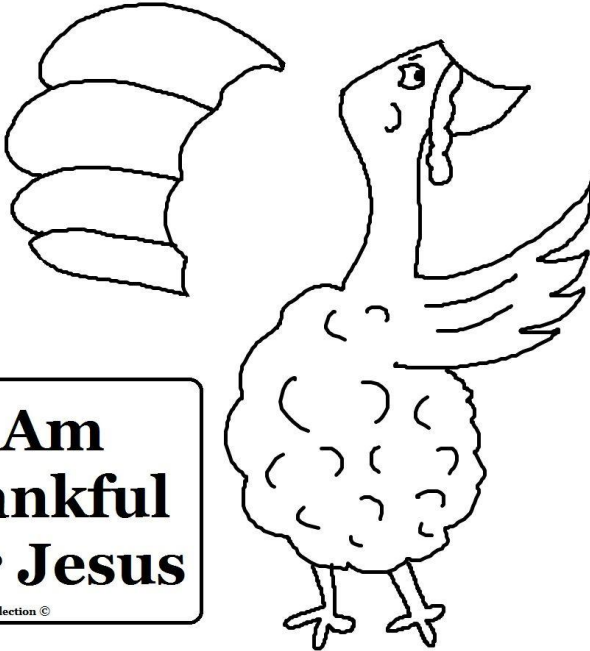
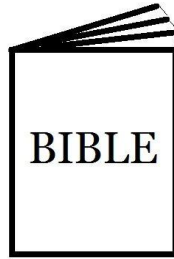
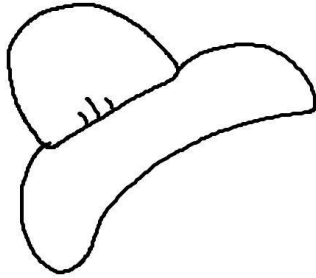
For Children (Of all ages)

Color, cut and assemble pieces together on construction paper.

Finished Craft



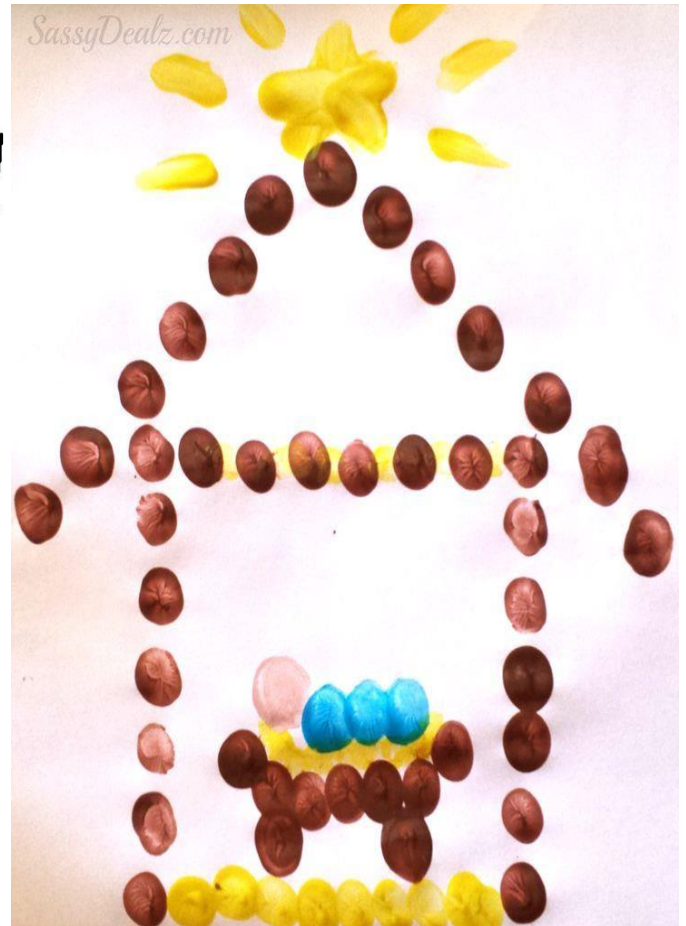
Church House Collection ©



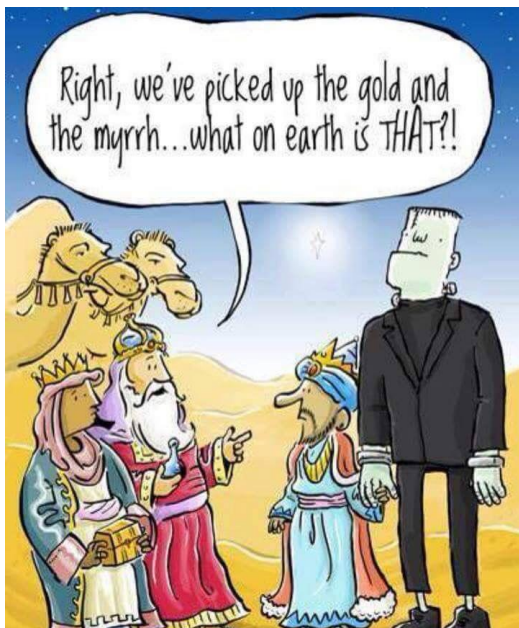
**I Am
Thankful
For Jesus**

Church House Collection ©

Color, cut and reassemble pieces together on construction paper



Use finger paint and follow the above outline.



“Thought for the Day”

Shared with us by a friend of our congregation.

Someone recently said, “One of the things you can’t miss in the Bible is the goodness of God.” Over and over, you hear, “*The Lord is good and His mercy endures forever.*” God does not just do good things, He is goodness. He is the embodiment and standard of goodness by which goodness is defined and evaluated. Jesus told the rich, young ruler, “*There is none good but one, that is, God.*”

The law of God is good; it shows us God’s standard of goodness. God’s Spirit is good; He shows us our failure to meet God’s standard of goodness, and our need for goodness in order to dwell in God’s presence. God in His goodness sent His son to pay for our falling short of His goodness, and to give to our account His own goodness. Jesus in His goodness was obedient to the will of the Father, even unto the death on the cross, that we might be delivered from our sin and its penalty and become partakers of God’s goodness with Him. God’s goodness is meant to bring us to repentance initially, and continually.

Satan’s wife in the garden was to plant in the mind of Eve that God was not good and could not be trusted. What a deception! When you step back and look at it, that is extremely illogical. How could disobeying God, who is goodness, and violating His law, which is good, result in being like Him, able to evaluate all goodness and evil. The very action against goodness would totally disqualify one from being in a position to determine true goodness ever again; goodness would now be whatever seems right in one’s own eyes.

Every aspect, attribute, quality, or characteristic of God is good, and full of goodness. His wisdom is good, His ways are good, His word is good, His love is good, His judgment is good. Everything He has made and done is good, because He is good. He cannot be otherwise; it is who He is.

The Psalms are wonderful in that they record and express the human agony and the ecstasy of learning that God is good. Our source of hope and strength is the goodness of the Lord. Our basis of praise and worship is the goodness of the Lord. Our motivation in prayer is the goodness of the Lord. Christ, our Savior, never lose sight of it.

For further meditation: *Psalms - 30, 31, 32, 33, 34*

