

Reformed Church of Palmyra
236 Canandaigua St.
Palmyra, NY 14522



The Messenger

Reformed Church of Palmyra Newsletter

November, December 2024





The Power of Thanksgiving

The giving of thanks is a biblical concept going all the way back to Noah and his family in the book of Genesis. As soon as the earth was dry after the flood, Noah and his family were finally able to leave the ark. Noah's first act was to build an altar and give thanks and worship to God.

Thanksgiving is an important part of the Christian life. It is the capstone to a life of prayer. The apostle Paul instructed the church in Philippi regarding prayer: *Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God (Philippians 4:6, NASB).*

Thanksgiving is also a clear way we can show love and devotion to Almighty God.

In faith, thank God in advance for all He is going to do in the year to come – because there is tremendous power in Thanksgiving!



What is Advent?

Advent is a four-week season dedicated to reflective preparation for the arrival, "advent", of Jesus Christ's Nativity at Christmas time as well and Christ's expected return in the Second Coming.

During this important event on the church calendar, each week of Advent focuses on a different theme - hope, peace, joy, and love.

Christians from all denominations and backgrounds celebrate Advent in different ways but all focus on the anticipation of waiting for the arrival of Jesus.



True Meaning of Christmas - Celebrating the Savior

Jesus was born to pay the price for the things we have done wrong: sin. God sent his only son to be the atonement for all our sins so that we would not be separated from God. Without Jesus, we would all die for our sins.

While being fully God and yet fully man, Jesus came into the world as an infant to save us all.

We exchange gifts because God sent us the most precious gift: his only Son.

We know that through belief in Christ, we are daughters and sons of God. Heaven will one day be our home.

Perhaps this will help you look at the Christmas season differently this year.

Reformed Church of Palmyra

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

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
Sean Edmunds	315-573-3955
Petr Premyslovsky	Treasurer 315-879-1791
Lisa Premyslovsky	SS Supt. 315-879-1813

PRAYER SUPPORT

If you need Prayer Support:

- ♥ 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 Bible Study/Prayer Meeting on Wednesdays

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 Fellowship Hall and the Mother's Nursing Room
- **Free daily devotionals 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.

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.

- † Cal Bucknam
- † Lori Hawkins (Mary's daughter-in-law)
- † Joe Perri (friend of Amy Sitterley)
- † Jackson (Dave & Carol Fanelli's grandson)
- † Mike Buck
- † Eunice Reynolds (assisted living)
- † Missionaries that our church support:
 - ♥ The Ricci family
 - ♥ Greg & Jean Davis
 - ♥ Schaffer family in Africa

Condolences:

- ♥ **Donna Ondra lati** (sister-in-law to Lisa Premyslovsky & Dave Ondra) lost her fight with cancer Sept. 26. Prayers for Donna's family and the Ondra family.
- ♥ **Roy Vanderwall** – was a life-long member of our church, and a true friend. Roy passed away October 10, 2024 at the age of 95. Please keep in prayer his children Krista A. (Thomas) Marchand and John W. (Karen) Vanderwall, and his many nieces and nephews.
- ♥ **Phillip Proeto**, father of Joyce Bucknam passed away at the age 94 peacefully on October 25, 2024. Pray for Joyce and other family members.

Lord, please be with these families and give them the comfort of your love.

Congratulations:

Jack & Deb Thompson are retired!!!

Jack worked at Pooler Enterprise and Deb was a primary school teacher at East Palmyra Christian School. Their retirement plans are to spend time in Myrtle Beach and then time here with families and friends. May God be with and bless you wherever you are!!

Change of Address:

- ♥ **Caleb and Joanne Mason's** new address is 548 Stafford Rd., Palmyra, New York 14522. Please make this change in your Church Directory.
- ♥ **Ron VanderBrook** has NOT moved to LeRoy, NY. He is still in East Rochester.

Welcomed to our new family members:

The Biernat family:

Andrew, Samantha & Rosabelle, Sophia
& Gwenevere

The Carter family:

Christopher, Lydia & Joshua



We are pleased to have you with us in spreading God's love and word!

Happy Birthday:

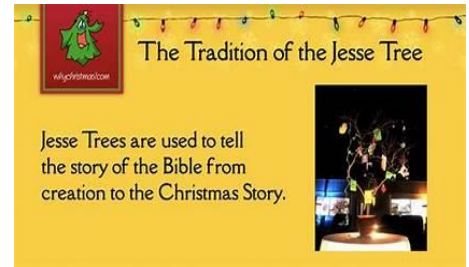
(If your special day is not listed, please contact Carol Fanelli to have it added.)

- Nov. 1 Isaac Harden
- 4 Milton Mashner
- 4 Samuel Harden
- 9 Roberta Main
- 12 Ivy Legros
- 12 Ezekiel Smith
- 12 Terry Gendron
- 12 Linda VanderMeere
- 15 Sigurd Harden
- 15 Petr Premyslovsky
- 16 Lucy Fordon
- 16 Marcia Marsille
- 17 Carrie Nies
- 19 Mackenzie Thompson
- 19 Joshua Thompson

- 20 Diana Holbein
- 22 Oslo Hullings
- Dec. 2 Jim Harden
- 5 Abigail Harden
- 13 Len Main
- 17 Andrew Biernat
- 20 Dave Ondra
- 20 Frances Insalaco
- 20 Jonas Klingler
- 21 Rev. Bill Hoffman
- 22 Mylah Thompson
- 24 Marie Carrier
- 25 Justin Kane
- 26 Ella DeRuyter
- 27 Elijah Edmunds
- 28 Casey Legros
- 29 Tim DeVey
- 29 Suzie Smith
- 30 Derrek Thompson
- 31 Steve Marsille

Happy Anniversary:

Dec. 9 Dave & Carol Fanelli



THANK YOU

A big thank you to those who helped move **Taylor Bell, Sawyer and Finn** to their new home.

The **Women's Ministry** profited \$1,007 from the chicken-n-biscuit dinner. THANK YOU to our Lord and to everyone who helped. Those who helped were also helping those in need who the Women's Ministry supports.

There are so many people to thank for the activities and events of our church: pumpkin picking, Dutch fritter sale, game night, the Fellowship Team, church picnic, bible studies, Sunday School, Men's Breakfast, etc.

Our **Consistory** deserve a big thank you for all the work they do.

Thank you to those who have already brought in supplies for **shoeboxes for Operation Christmas**

Child. Thank you for your help spreading God's love around the world

Way to help others

Reformed Church of Palmyra has boxes & containers (in the kitchen by the church phone) for:

- o Used stamps - Alliance Stamp Ministry – they provide Sunday School literature for Spanish speaking churches
- o Pull top tabs from beverage cans
- o Food Pantry for Palmyra, Macedon, Farmington
- o Bottles/cans with a 5-cent deposit can be left in the black plastic bag below the phone in the kitchen (these go to EPCS)

Pal-Mac Food Pantry items needed:

- All soaps Canned fruit Pasta Bread
- Spagh. sauce Peanut butter Jelly Soup
- Pancake mix Syrup Cereal Juices
- Canned meals Boxed meals Canned veg/fruit
- Toilet paper Hygiene items Reusable bags

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bible Study Opportunities:

- * **Wed. Morning Bible Study - starts at 11:00 am**, with lunch. All are welcome!
Nov. 6, 13, 20, 27
Dec. 4, 11, 18
- * **Wed. evening Bible Study - 3rd, 4th, 5th** of the month at 7:00 pm.
Nov. 20, 27
Dec. 18
- * **Family Bible Study** - This is a study every other Thurs. evening. The evenings will start out with a pot luck dinner at 6:00pm (please bring a dish to share). Then bible study is directed toward families members. Babysitting is not provided but children are certainly welcome. All ages are invited.
Nov. 7 and 21
Dec. 5 and 19

Heidelberg Catechism Study. The first Sun. of each month Preston is doing a rotation through the Heidelberg Catechism. Families are encouraged to focus on each Lord's Day as we go through it month by month.

Nov. 3 is Lords Day question #2

Dec. 1 is Lords Day question #3

See Preston if you would like a copy of the Heidelberg Catechism.

2.

Q. What do you need to know in order to live and die in the joy of this comfort?

- A. First, how great my sins and misery are;[1] second, how I am delivered from all my sins and misery;[2] third, how I am to be thankful to God for such deliverance.[3]

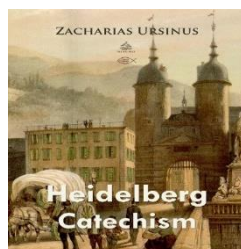
[1] [Rom. 3:9, 10](#); [I John 1:10](#). [2] [John 17:3](#); [Acts 4:12](#); [10:43](#). [3] [Matt. 5:16](#); [Rom. 6:13](#); [Eph. 5:8-10](#); [I Pet. 2:9, 10](#).

3.

Q. From where do you know your sins and misery?

- A. From the law of God.[1]

[1] [Rom. 3: 20](#);



Volunteer Needed. We are setting up a new communication form for the church and we need someone to monitor it. Some computer experience needed. Please see Diana Holbein if you can help.

Refreshment Help. The fellowship time after the Sunday morning service is a vital part of our church experience. If you'd like to be part of serving the church family by providing and setting up refreshments, please see Cheryl Mason.

Sean Edmunds rode his bike from Buffalo to NYC (Sept. 16-30) along the Empire State Trail as a fundraiser to purchase a pediatric medical crib for Joshua. For more information email: call 315-573-3955 or Dedmunds82@yahoo.com. Please prayerfully consider helping them financially.

Prayer Needs are in the Mid-Week Update. If you want to be added to the distribution or want to add a prayer request see Carol Fanelli (716-512-0589).

Angel Tree - Wayne County Nursing Home

The Nursing Home has an Angel Tree to make sure that no resident is forgotten at Christmas. Carol Fanelli will have the names (and suggested gift) on December 1st. Select your angel, purchase a gift, add their name and return your wrapped gift to church by Dec. 15.



Beginning of Advent – Dec. 1

If you would like to be a reader on one of the Sundays in Advent, please contact Carol Fanelli.

Poinsettia Memorial Month

In the month of Dec., we beautify the Sanctuary with poinsettias in loving remembrance of a loved one. Be sure to tell Carol Fanelli so your name (and your loved one's name) can be added to our Memorial List.

ACT (Activity Come Together) Teams will be assigned in January. Enjoy the season of the birth of Christ.

Communion Sunday will be December 5 -

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

Sunday School Classes are held 9:30-10:15am:

- * Women's SS with **Diana Holbein**
 - o They are currently in Psalm 13
 - * Class for all with **Peter Mason**
 - o They are working through Hebrews
- All are welcome!

Nov. 10 - Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Packing Day – immediately after church ALL are asked to please go downstairs and help pack shoeboxes to send to Operation Christmas Child during the week of 17th.

Women's Ministry:

Nov. 11 - Ladies Holiday Dinner Outing at Macedon Hill Restaurant. Please meet there at 5:30 pm. All ladies are invited.

Dec. 2 - Those attending the meeting are asked to bring a bible verse; a Christmas memory, poem or story and 2 or 3 dozen cookies (we are having a cookie exchange).

Nov. 17 – Jesse Tree Activity -The Jesse tree holds significant meaning for Christians during the Advent season. It serves as a visual reminder of God's faithfulness throughout history and His promise of salvation through the lineage of King David. The tree helps to build anticipation for the celebration of Christmas. If you would like to be a part of this new activity, please sign up on the sheet in the Fellowship Hall. Steve and Brittany Hullings are spearheading this event.

Nov. 24 - Congregational Meeting. Our congregational meeting including the election of elders and deacons.

Nov. 28 – Thanksgiving Day Service

A service of thanksgiving will be held at 10:00am. An offering will be taken for the Pal-Mac Food Pantry.



Dec. 1 - Cookie Baking Sunday

Please bring in cookies, frosting and sprinkles for the children to decorate; or bring simple cookie ingredients and recipe for the kids to make..

Dec. 13 - Christmas Caroling with pizza. Meet at the church at 5:30 for pizza, then we go caroling and come back to church for hot cocoa.

Dec. 15 - Christmas Luncheon and Children's Program immediately after the morning service. The children will share with us the Nativity play. They are so cute.

Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve Candle Light Service at 7:00pm. An offering will be taken for Church World Service.

Fellowship Sundays – The last Sunday of each month our church family gets together for a potluck lunch, fellowship, time of worship and a short Bible teaching. Everyone is asked to please bring a dish to share. EVERYONE is invited to attend.

- * **Nov.24 – Memory Lane/Comfort Food theme**
- * **Dec. 29 - Italian theme**

Mission of Month is held the first Sunday of each month. A special offering will be taken. Lisa Premyslovsky will share information on these missions during the service.

- Nov. 3 – Operation Christmas Child shoebox postage**
- Dec. 1 – Good Neighbor Fund**

Christian Education meeting is held the second Sun. of the month at 11:45 am. Teachers, supervisors, and those interested in our children are asked to grab a coffee and snack and please meet in the kitchen.

Nov. 10 and Dec. 8

Men's Breakfast - Third Sat. of the month, 8:00 am. Please bring a breakfast item, your bible, and a friend.

Nov. 16 and Dec. 21

Education/Media Night is the Second Wed. of each month at 7:00 pm. There is always popcorn. The movie will be in the Fellowship Hall with the new TV on the back wall.



Join us as we watch the amazing biography of the blind hymn writer, Fanny Crosby. As the writer of more than 10,000 hymns, all penned after the age of 40, she is credited with authoring more verse than any human in history.

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes - deliver great joy and the Good News of Jesus Christ to children in need around the world through gift-filled shoeboxes. Each box is packed full of quality toys, school supplies & personal care items. They become a tangible expression of God's immense love for the child. For many, it is their first gift ever received! Shoebox gifts provide an opportunity to present the Gospel to boys and girls in a child-friendly way. All items should be new and please take off all packaging (it becomes litter).

Suggested items for Operation Christmas Child.

Volunteers for Operation Christmas Child fill shoeboxes with fun toys, school supplies and hygiene items. These are delivered to children in need around the world to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way. Many of these children live in areas devastated by poverty, war and natural disasters; for some the gift-filled shoebox is the first gift they have ever received.

*Please only items in new condition.

TOYS

- Dolls & doll clothes
- Balls
- Puzzles
- Stuffed animals/Beanies
- Happy Meal Toys
- Finger puppets
- Cars/Trucks/Boats
- Plastic dinosaurs / animals
- Yo-Yos
- Small musical instruments
- **Any small toys**



SCHOOL SUPPLIES

- Pencils
- Pencil sharpener
- Colored pencils
- Pencil case
- Erasers
- Pens
- Crayons
- Markers
- Notebooks
- Solar-powered calculator
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Protractor
- Small Backpacks



- Jackets
- Sunglasses
- Tote bag/purse
- Hair bows
- Jewelry

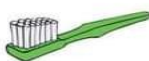
CRAFTS & ACTIVITIES

- Binoculars
- Chalkboard with chalk
- Kaleidoscope
- Jump rope
- Playing cards
- Marbles
- Coloring books
- Stickers
- Books
- Bibles



PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

- Comb or hairbrush
- Toothbrush
- Washcloth
- Plastic cup, bowl or water bottle
- Blanket
- Compact mirror
- Nail clippers or file
- Stick deodorant



CLOTHING & ACCESSORIES

- Shirts and pants
- Dresses
- Underwear
- Socks
- Shoes
- Flip-flops
- Hat/scarf/mittens



Blank greeting cards or Christmas cards. We try to include a handwritten note in every box to remind the child that they are loved and prayed for.



• **Anything you think would bring a child joy!**

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR HELPING US HELP KIDS



Items we cannot include in shoeboxes:

- Candy
- Toothpaste
- Gum
- Used or damaged items
- Seeds
- Scary or war-related items (toy guns, knives, or military figures)
- Chocolate or food
- Fruit rolls or other fruit snacks
- Drink mixes (powdered or liquid)
- Liquids or lotions
- Medications or vitamins
- Breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers
- Aerosol cans

Start saving now! School supplies are on sale!

HELPING HANDS

Our thanks to the following for their continued help in the church:

Greeter/Usher:

- Nov. 3 Dave & Carol Fanelli
- 10 Dave & Carol Fanelli
- 17 Chris & Audrey Hohenboken
- 24 Mike & Diana Holbein

- Dec. 1 Caleb & Joanna Mason
- 8 Peter & Cheryl Mason
- 15 Len & Roberta Main
- 22 Dave & Lisa Ondra
- 29 Rocco Pizzirusso

Flowers:

- Nov. 3 Preston & Emily Smith
- 10 Elaine, Alan & Kathy Bushart
in loving memory of Gordon, Doug
Bushart
- 17 Bob & Linda VanderMeere in loving
memory of their son Stephen
VanderMeere
- 24 **THANKSGIVING SUNDAY**
Dave & Carol Fanelli in loving
memory of Dave's parents

- Dec. 1 **POINSETTIA MEMORIAL MONTH**
- 8 Please bring a poinsettia in memory
or in honor of a loved one.
- 15
- 22 **CHRISTMAS SUNDAY**
- 29



Coffee Hour:

- Nov. 3 Donna Edmunds, Ella DeRuyter &
Brenda Becker
- 10 Lisa Ondra & Audrey Hohenboken
- 17 Carol Fanelli & Laurie Pipitone
- 24 Fellowship Sunday Luncheon—
Memory Lane/Comfort Food theme

- Dec. 1 Cheryl Mason & Raquel Kish
- 8 Roberta Main & Ashley McMullen
- 15 Joyce Bucknam & Marlene Slocum
- 22 Linda Harden & Joanna Mason
- 29 Fellowship Sunday Luncheon—
Italian theme

Jr. Church/Nursery:

- Nov. 3 Chris & Audrey Hohenboken &
Miles Nies
- 10 Devin & Ella DeRuyter &
Spencer Nies
- 17 Bill & Emily Smith &
Serenity Byron
- 24 Lisa Premyslovsky, Steve Marsille
Miles

- Dec. 1 Lisa & Jeff Brannan & Spencer
- 8 Dave & Raquel Kish & Serenity
- 15 Chris & Audrey & Miles
- 22 Devin & Ella & Spencer
- 29 Bill & Emily & Serenity



THE POSITIVE SIDE OF LIFE:

Living on Earth is expensive,
but it does include a free trip
around the sun every year.

How long a minute is
depends on what side of the
bathroom door you're on.

Birthdays are good for you;
the more you have,
the longer you live.

Happiness comes through doors you
didn't even know you left open.

Ever notice that the people who are late
are often much jollier
than the people who have to wait for them?

If Wal-Mart is lowering prices every day,
how come nothing is free yet?

You may be only one person in the world,
but you may also be the world to one person.

Some mistakes are too much fun
to only make once.

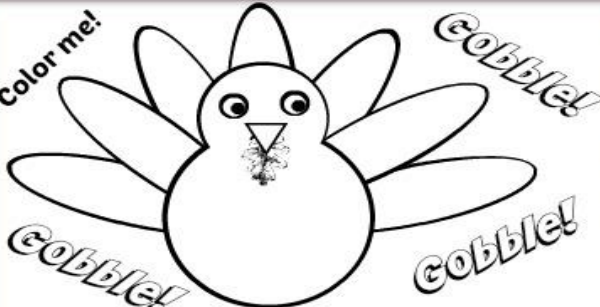
Don't cry because it's over;
smile because it happened.

We could learn a lot from crayons:
some are sharp, some are pretty,
some are dull, some have weird names,
and all are different colors....but
they all exist very nicely in the same box.

A truly happy person is one who
can enjoy the scenery on a detour.

**Working for God on earth does not pay much,
but His Retirement plan is out of this world.**

For Children (Of all ages)



I am **THANKFUL** for...

Thanksgiving Food

H	I	U	B	K	R	M	D	A	L
R	I	P	O	T	A	T	O	E	S
S	T	U	F	F	I	N	G	D	W
C	X	U	T	H	C	H	R	H	A
G	V	P	I	E	U	I	A	P	S
V	Q	S	L	C	M	G	V	M	K
Y	A	M	S	I	C	X	Y	A	A
Z	J	R	O	O	Z	B	M	K	M
U	B	A	P	U	M	P	K	I	N
Y	H	T	U	R	K	E	Y	J	Z

PUMPKIN

TURKEY

STUFFING

YAMS

HAM

PIE

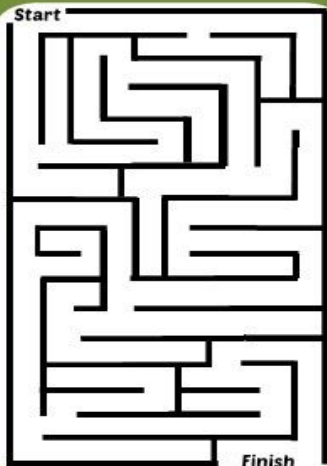
GRAVY

POTATOES

Word In A Word

THANKSGIVING

Start



Finish

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Jesus... Reason For The Season

Be First To Fill In Blanks To Questions About Jesus Using Words Provided.

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. — Which angel appeared to Mary? 2. — Who was father of Joseph the husband of Mary? 3. — Where was Jesus born? 4. — Means "God with Us" 5. — Who was King of Judea when Jesus was born? 6. — He was one of Jesus' brothers 7. — Who came to visit Baby Jesus? 8. — Who was Jesus descended from? 9. — To whom did an angel say, "Do not be afraid"? 10. — Who told Mary and Joseph to go to Bethlehem? 11. — Who was it revealed to by the Holy Spirit that he wouldn't die before he saw the Messiah? 12. — Which title of Jesus means "Anointed One"? 13. — Which book in the Bible references the Magi? 14. — Which prophet called Jesus Prince of Peace? 15. — What does the name Jesus mean? 16. — Who prophesied where Messiah would be born? 17. — Who spoke to shepherds in the fields? 18. — Which prophet never left the temple and spoke about Jesus to his parents when they took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord? 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. Isaiah B. Anna C. Shepherds D. King David E. Caesar Augustus F. Simeon G. Gabriel H. Messiah I. Matthew J. Savior K. Emmanuel L. Micañ M. Jacob N. Mary O. Angel of the Lord P. Bethlehem Q. King Herod R. James
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TOTAL _____

