

FRONTSTREETER: JANUARY 2022



The Reformed Church of Canajoharie

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Pastor's Page

Hi Folks!

Here is a list of resolutions for the new year. I write this with the words of John Calvin ringing in my ears: "So you made resolutions. Isn't that cute?"

1. I resolve to never expect a good season from my NY Giants ever again. If they win, it will be a happy surprise.
2. I resolve to get rid of my large collection of fat clothes.
3. I resolve to make my thin clothes (such as they are) fit.
4. I resolve to spend more time in the Word of God
5. I resolve to think deeply about every conspiracy theory I hear and try to figure out the logic behind the plots of the bad guys before I get excited.
6. I resolve to listen more.
7. I resolve to love a lot more.
8. I resolve to be a ray of sunshine in a darkling world.
9. I resolve to make the most of my time.

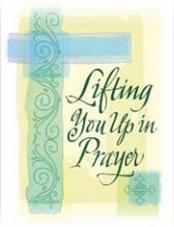
Well, here goes.



A Note to Parents:



There will be a meeting on **January 16th** after church to discuss how we can move forward with the education and discipleship of the young in the congregation. With all the different activities, many of them good and beneficial, that get in the way of Sunday School we need to figure out new strategies for being faithful to our vows and raise our children to know the Lord. (Hint: It has to be a group effort and will require some modeling on the part of adults.) Please attempt to make this a priority and make sure that at least one parent is available for the meeting.



In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Prayers for those in need of Comfort and Healing: The Family & Friends of Alyssa Parrino – who passed away on Thursday Dec. 30th; Family & Friends of Tommy Jenks – who lost his battle with cancer this week; Bob Dievendorf – health concerns; Erika Groux (*daughter of Philip & Jane Hawkins*) – return of a brain tumor that is non-cancerous; Karen Konik (KK) – health concerns; John & Janet Rocas - health concerns; Barbara Bowden – health issues; Jim Evans – (*Father of Sarah Davidson*) - health issues; Bob Wells – health issues; Patty Gorman, who is receiving treatment for kidney cancer, Patty is a cousin of Nancy Robinson; Clara & Bob Mount – health concerns; Jane Hawkins – health concerns; Pat Sowizdral – health concerns; Frank & Chubby - for good health.

Prayers for those Homebound or in Healthcare Facilities: Paul Flint – St. Johnsville Nursing Home, 7 Timmerman Ave., St. Johnsville, NY 13452; Barbara Draffen (*Pastor Matt's Mother*) Glendale Home, 59 Hetcheltown Rd., Schenectady, NY 12302; Ruby Tufts, Room #5 First Floor, Wells House, 201 W. Madison Ave, Johnstown, NY 12095.

Prayers for our Missionaries: Felipe & Janelle Silva – serving in Romania; Mark, Deb & Zach Wilson – serving in Cambodia.

Prayers for those incarcerated: Scott Cole – DIN# 15B2351, Great Meadow Correctional Facility Box 51, Comstock, NY 12821-0051.

Prayers for: Dan Cauwenberghs – (*Bobbi Cauwenberghs son*) who has now returned to Kosovo for his work.

Annual Meeting to Be Held



Sunday January 30th Annual Congregational Meeting & Cover Dish; This will be held after Church in Fellowship Hall and please bring a dish to pass. The meeting will take place following the dinner.

Reports Are Due! Please remember to turn in your Annual Report to the Church Office by **Sunday January 23rd**. Any questions please contact Robin at the church office 518-673-2816 or send her an email at: www.office@canjoreformed.org.

Sign-Up to Help: As many of you know our church has been installing new video/sound equipment in the Sanctuary. Soon it will be up and running, but we need people to run it on Sunday mornings. There are spots available if you are interested. Please sign-up on sheet located in the back of the Sanctuary. Someone from the company who installed the equipment will come and show us how to operate the system.

2022 Mission of the Month

Month	Mission
January	Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York
February	Montgomery County Office of the Aging
March	Fulmont Community Action Agency
April	Haven of Hope
May	Inspiration Hills Journey Camp
June	Back Pack Program
July	Mountain Valley Hospice
August	JYP (Junior Youth Program)
September	Operation Xmas Child
October	CYC
November	Community Children Needs
December	Cambodian Missionaries (Phnom Penh Bible School)

Consistory Corner

- **Nominations**

Glenn Bentz at Sunday's coffee hour has agreed to be Deacon for the coming year. Vote will take place soon.

- **Sanctuary Video:** Wiring and cameras are completed. New laptop is being sent by ICCI. We will need a desk, monitor and headphones to complete equipment prior to doing the training on the new system.
- **Marge Datz** – has donated 15 shares of Microsoft stock which has been sold.
- **Property** – One of the front columns has been completed and will be painted before installation.
- **Special Reception** – A flower arrangement was presented to Dorothy Morrison during coffee hour in honor of her 90th birthday.
- **Masking** – NYS has issued a temporary mask mandate for all indoor venues until Jan 15, 2022. Masks will be strongly recommended at all services.
- **Consistory Workshop** will be scheduled once the new Consistory members are installed.
- **Emory & Webb** – have requested we make several changes to the business renewal questionnaire. All agreed.
- **Sexual Misconduct Prevention** - A sample policy provided by Emory & Webb should be reviewed before the next meeting so that we may adopt these procedures.

The next Consistory meeting will be 7:00 PM on Tuesday, January 11, 2022 in the Church House.

January Birthday Blessings

6	June Lunde	27	Daisyann Fredericks
13	Trinity Lanier		*Paul Roberts (Church St. Day Hab)
19	Pastor Matt Draffen	28	Dolores Talmadge
21	Cornell Lanier		Frank Snyder
24	Carol Cechnicki	31	Evelyn Van Kersen
25	Maria Mallett		

*Please send all ARC cards to:
Liberty Day Hab
66 Church St., Canajoharie, NY 13317



Felipe and Janelle deWaard-Silva - Missionaries in Romania

The click of an unlocked door marks the beginning of another busy day at Fără Limite Climbing Gym. Chalk instantly covers hands, and clouds of chalk dust fill the air. Music blasts as kids scale the walls for the next seven hours. Cheers of encouragement and warm embraces provide a glimpse into the family they've built here, a stark contrast to many of the kids' lives outside the gym walls.

In partnership with the New Horizons Foundation, Felipe and Janelle work with Roma youth in the Jiu Valley to build trust, perseverance, character, and courage through rock climbing. In a town where poverty forces many parents to move away for work, this ministry provides youth in the neighborhood of Dallas, Romania, an environment where they can experience safety and respect, develop life skills, pursue education, and come to know the love of Christ. Felipe and Janelle have also planted Anchor Church in Dallas, Romania.

We are over-joyed to share with you about the work of the Holy Spirit in Andreea's life and how, as she said in her testimony, "God called her to himself". We have known Andreea since the day the climbing gym opened. We quickly learned of her bleak situation; she lived with her two older brothers; their mother had abandoned them when Andreea was two and her father was in England trying to make money to support them. They were the poorest of all the kids at the gym, with no water, electricity, and often no food to eat.

Missions – Continued

This past year when Andreea was trying to register for school, the education system would not help her since she had no guardian or parent to help her. She had gotten angry and the school director and sworn at her, and her chances became slim. I went with her and after about two weeks of pushing and doing paperwork she was registered for the 9th grade. Since I have known Andreea she has had a unique strength you don't find in many children with such little love, motivation, and resources from their parents. Both her brothers dropped out of school after the 4th grade but Andreea continued on her own accord. She liked to learn and enjoyed the social interaction. After helping her sign up for school I invited her to church, and she decided to come as see.

As she says in her testimony, if she happened to be awake on a Sunday at 10:30 she would come but would go up to the Sunday School rather than listening to the preaching, thinking it was a bit strange. One day she said she wanted to listen to the sermon and it was there that she felt the presence of the Holy Spirit for the first time in her life. She says "He began to answer many questions that I had about life, and for the first time I felt understood by someone, that I was not alone".

Andreea began to come to the women's group, the Good News catechism class, Friday prayer, and worship team practices (she loves to sing); she was hungry for the gospel! "I learned that the main goal of a persons life is to glorify God and worship him forever". Andreea shared in her testimony that she struggle with violence. She was a violent person and had an especially hard time restraining from fighting with boys. Through the peace-making class at Ancora, she said God helped her see that there were peaceful ways to resolve conflict and she saw the Holy Spirit changing her character to be more like that of Jesus; gentle and forgiving.

She says that her life began to change even more; growing up in poverty she had developed the habit of stealing from a young age. She says "I was in a store and I saw a perfume I wanted, I didn't have the money to buy it and so I stole it. But for the first time, as I left the store, I began to feel guilty for what I had done. I started to be afraid of God and had the feeling I had done something wrong. I said 'God I know you will help me, I promise I will not steal anymore'. God helped her keep her promise and also provided for her physical needs. "It was at this moment I realized that happiness is not in material things, not even in money, and not in alcohol, the only Remedy is Jesus Christ, he is 'the way the truth and the life' John 14 ".

"He has the power to make us new with a new heart and it doesn't cost us anything, the price has already been paid. Jesus died on the cross for us and took all our sins upon Himself that whoever believes in the Lord with all his heart will be saved. If you seek the Lord with a sincere and humble heart, and you recognize that you need Him in your life, He will be found and will jump to help you. This is how I learned that without God I have no life, and that if I have Him in my heart, I need absolutely nothing more." This was Andreea's closing paragraph of her testimony. She told me before she spoke that morning that all she wanted was that someone else would have hope to believe in God through her testimony!

Missions – Continued

Please keep Andreea in your prayers. The work of the Holy Spirit in her has encouraged Felipe and I, and our church body in an enormous way, giving us continued thanksgiving, praise, faith, energy, and hope. All praise to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Education Program: Christmas Market

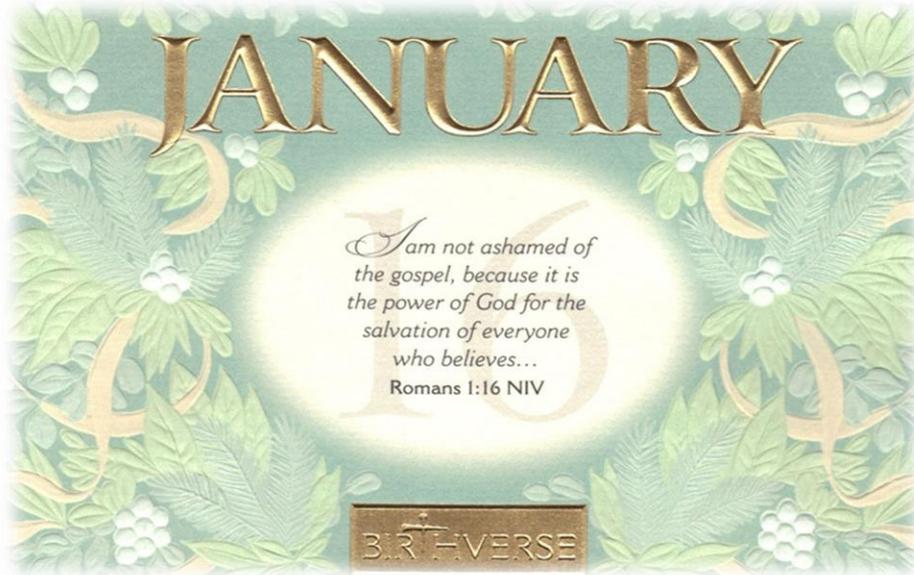
The kids from our education program worked hard to prepare their own handmade crafts to sell at our Christmas market this year. We wanted to encourage them in their work in the sewing program and decided to motivate them with the idea that they could earn money through their creations! Here are some pictures from the Christmas market. We sold 180 Christmas cards, book covers, bookmarks, and table coasters. We had carolling and hot chocolate as well and it was a blessed time for all involved.



A New Thing

Bible Reading Plan

Jan 1: Isaiah 43:19	Jan 17: Ecclesiastes 3:11
Jan 2: John 10:10	Jan 18: Malachi 4:2
Jan 3: Job 8:7	Jan 19: John 3:5-6
Jan 4: Revelation 21:4	Jan 20: Isaiah 58:12
Jan 5: John 13:34	Jan 21: 1 Peter 5:10
Jan 6: Jeremiah 31:31	Jan 22: Lamentations 3:22-24
Jan 7: Isaiah 65:17	Jan 23: Hebrews 12:24
Jan 8: Ezekiel 11:19	Jan 24: 2 Corinthians 5:1
Jan 9: Isaiah 66:22	Jan 25: Philippians 3:13
Jan 10: Revelation 21:15	Jan 26: Jeremiah 31:33
Jan 11: Isaiah 62:2	Jan 27: Haggai 2:9
Jan 12: Jeremiah 29:11	Jan 28: 1 Corinthians 2:9
Jan 13: Isaiah 42:10	Jan 29: Isaiah 40:31
Jan 14: Ephesians 4:22-24	Jan 30: 2 Corinthians 5:20-21
Jan 15: 2 Corinthians 5:17	
Jan 16: Ezekiel 36:26	



Not once in
the bible does it
say Worry about it,
Stress over it, or, Figure it out.
But over and over it clearly says
Trust God

Trust God