



The Grapevine

November 2023

A Word from the Pastor

The Main Thing

One of my preaching inspirations has always been Fred Craddock, former professor at Candler Seminary at Emory and author of numerous books on preaching. He tells about the time his daughter graduated from college, and he wanted to give her something really special for graduation. Though she was most likely expecting something along the lines of a new car, he gave her a copy of a Yiddish poem which he had had translated into English and then framed.

After she had read the poem, she looked at her dad and said, "I don't get it." According to Craddock, even years later, when he asked her if she had figured out what the poem meant, she would say, "Dad, I still don't get it." And he was not about to tell her. See if you can "get it." The name of the poem is: "The Main Thing."

*If your outlook on things has changed— This is not the main thing.
If you feel like laughing at old dreams— This is not the main thing.
If you recall errors of which you are now ashamed—
This is not the main thing.*

*Even if you know that what you are doing now, you will regret some other time — This is not the main thing.
But beware, lightheartedly, to conclude from this that there is no such thing as the main thing. This is the main thing.*

Do you get it? What do you think is the main thing?

What her father would not tell her, he later shared. The main thing, the root of all virtue, the source of all compassion, the cure for all hurtful pride — the main thing, it shouldn't surprise you — is gratitude.

I hope each of you are able to grasp the main thing this November as we celebrate our Stewardship and then, on November 23rd, set aside a day devoted to gratitude!

Dave

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Contact Us:

Rev. David Pepper:
dpepper@presbyteroy.org
(585) 409-6929

Church Office:
office@presbyteroy.org
(585) 768-8700

Website:
www.presbyteroy.org

Office Hours:
Mon. & Wed. 9-Noon
Thurs. 9-1

The deadline for the December edition of the Grapevine: November 20th

November 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6:00 Girl Scouts	2	3	4 Thrift Shop 10:00-Noon Euchre 1:00pm
5 Maintenance meeting after service	6 5:00 TOPS	7 Thrift Shop 10:00-Noon 4:00-5:30	8 6:30 Garden Club	9	10	11 Thrift Shop 10:00-Noon
12	13 5:00 TOPS	14 Thrift Shop 10:00-Noon 4:00-5:30	15 6:00 Girl Scouts	16 6:00 SESSION	17	18 Thrift Shop 10:00-Noon
19 Last Day for Shoebox Collection Stewardship Dedication	20 GRAPEVINE DEADLINE 5:00 TOPS	21 Thrift Shop 10:00-Noon 4:00-5:30	22	23 	24	25 Thrift Shop 10:00-Noon
26 Decorate Sanctuary for Advent	27 Memorial Tree Bulb Deadline 5:00 TOPS	28 Thrift Shop 10:00-Noon 4:00-5:30 6:00 - 8:00 Girl Scout Leaders	29 6:00 Girl Scouts	30		



Thrift Shop Open

Tuesday 10:00 - Noon & 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Saturday 10:00 – Noon.

Christmas items are now on display along with other decorative items.

Christmas Items & Décor - new merchandise is added each week.

Also available are nice end tables, beautiful dishes, pots and pans, jewelry, CDs, pet items, bedding items, decorative pillows and much much more.

Donations are still being accepted.

The shop will participate in LeRoy’s Winterfest on Saturday, December 2, 2023

Donations can be left at the church under the coat rack, Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00 to noon.

Or phone Robin Upson 409-5153 to make an appointment.

Please no clothes, electronics, paper back books or large furniture.

If you would like to help in the shop at the sales table or sorting items, please give Robin Upson 409-5153 or June Dusen 356-6362 a phone call. Sometimes it is fun to just stop by and browse, you never know what you might find.

The shop will be having our annual raffle again this year.

5 Beautiful Santas will be on display for the raffle.

Be sure to stop by to view and purchase a ticket.

Tickets are one for \$1.00 or three for \$2.00

Drawing Saturday, December 2nd.

The committee appreciates everyone’s enthusiastic support of the Thrift Shop!



Christmas is Just Around the Corner

Chimer Practice has begun.

Looking for members to join us to celebrate the festive season.

**If interested please contact Dawn Ireland Monsees
or Candy Bower.**



2024 Stewardship Campaign

Stewardship season is here.

The Finance Committee is extremely grateful to members of the congregation and our Church friends for helping to support the Church this past year. Each giving, large or small, is important to the workings of the Church.

Stewardship is time, talents and resources; which means it is year round.

The Finance Committee, along with the other Session Committees, have worked hard this year to use the pledges in the best ways possible.

Your Stewardship Packet will be given out on Sunday, October 29th or mailed if you did not attend services that day.

We ask that you prayerfully consider your pledge for 2024.

May you share all that you are able.

Stewardship reminds us of the many blessings we have received from the Lord.

With your faith and commitment the Church will continue to thrive and be a beacon of light on the four corners of LeRoy.

If you did not receive your stewardship packet or pledge card for 2024 or would like a pledge card for 2024, please call the office and one will be sent.



Sunshine Nursery School 2023-2024 Session

Pre-K - Nursery School & Playgroup Classes are back in session.

Watch for little ones if you come into the church during the hours listed below.

Pre-K - M-F 9:00 - 11:30 Nursery - M-T-Th 9:00 - 11:30 & T-Th 12:00 - 2:30

Playgroup - W only - 9:00 - 10:30 and 11:00 - 12:30



Minute for Mission Lighting the Way

CHRISTMAS JOY
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
CHURCH LEADERS—PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

The **Christmas Joy Offering** is focused on sharing God's Love with those in need of help and hope. This offering provides assistance to students who attend Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges. It also provides grants to current and retired church workers and their families to help them through life's challenging circumstances.

On Sunday, December 10, 2023, you will find envelopes in your bulletin for this offering.

Please help with giving whatever you can to this special offering.



On Sunday, November 26th, please stay to help decorate the sanctuary.

It only takes about 45 minutes and many hands make light work so all are welcomed to assist the Maintenance Committee in this annual ritual!

Session Ministries 2023 - 2024

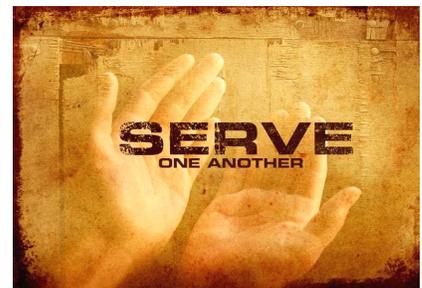
Care of Church Families/Mission: Pat Patton and Peg Wetzel

Finance: John Ruppberger and June Dusen

Maintenance: Ken Smith and Beth Patton

Program/Christian Education: Ann VerHague

Music & Worship: Karl Washington and Dawn Ireland-Monsees



Treasurer: Candace Bower

Clerks of Session: Lynda Taylor

Moderator: Rev. David Pepper



LeRoy Pantry & Help Fund

Macaroni & cheese, canned vegetables, spaghettiOs , canned stew, oatmeal, soups, snacks, canned fruits & juices, pancake mix, syrup, coffee, tea, etc.



When you are grocery shopping, please add a few of these items to your grocery cart. Help fill the donation box outside Olmsted Hall, so these items can be donated to the local food pantry.

It is that time again to ask you to consider finding a place for The LeRoy Pantry and Help Fund on your year ending donation list. The community's generous contributions have allowed us not only to "Make Christmas Merry" but to continue providing food throughout the year to those in need.



Please contact The Pantry at 768-4559, if you would like to volunteer your time, donate food, new or almost new toys, etc...for this year's Christmas project. All distributions are made within the Le Roy School District.



PRAYER CHAIN

Tell your troubles and they are halved, share your joys and they are doubled.

Even with our busy lives it is so very important that we do not forget our friends who are ill or in harm's way. Help lift up their spirits with your prayers.

Kathy Fitch Evelyn Taylor

Elizabeth Barber (Nevin-Brown)

Martha Monsees Gretchen Oakes

You can initiate the Prayer Chain anytime by calling Rev. Pepper (585-409-6929).

Remember that patient privacy laws prohibit hospitals and nursing homes from contacting clergy when patients are admitted, so we ask that families notify the church when a family member is admitted.



Euchre resumed again.

Those that would like to play come join us:
Saturday - November 4th - 1:00 p.m.
Will not be meeting in December.



Nine gardens were available this year and all were rented.
As of now all our renters will be returning next year.

Mid May 2024 will be the opening of the gardens for the season.

WINTERFEST 2023



LeRoy Winterfest is back. It will be held on Saturday,
December 2, 2023

Once again First Presbyterian Church will be participating in the Village of LeRoy Winterfest.

*This year there will be a vendor blender scheduled in
Olmsted Hall from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.*

The kitchen will be open serving chili, pizza, coffee, hot chocolate, water & cookies

If you or any of your family or friends would like to setup in our hall that day contact Deb Shultz (585-506-2424) for information and cost. It would be a great way to showcase your crafts or products and get to greet and meet your neighbors in the community.

Our Thrift Shop will also be open that day .

Come join in all the activities and fun!!

We, the faithful people of a loving God, are the caring congregation of the First Presbyterian Church of Le Roy, dedicated to Christ's ministry. We will share our faith through worship, fellowship, and in service to our church and the greater community.

First Presbyterian Church
7 Clay Street
Le Roy, NY 14482

Phone: 585-768-8700
Email: office@presbyteroy.org



Know Christ. Live Christ.
Share Christ.

Christmas Memorial Tree

Once again this holiday season the Church will set up a Christmas tree on the front porch. This tree will be filled with lights in memory of our loved ones and also as a sign of the light of Jesus Christ on the night of His birth to all who pass by the four corners of LeRoy.

You may purchase a bulb for **\$5.00** in memory of your loved one. You may purchase as many Christmas bulbs as you wish. Help us to shine many lights to share with others the gift of remembrance, joy and hope during this wondrous holiday season.

The **dedication ceremony** will be on **Sunday, December 3rd.** Fill out the form below and put in the collection plate with your contribution or mail to the Church office *no later than:*

Monday, November 27, 2023.

Given by: _____

In Memory of: _____