

One Voice

Monthly Newsletter of the United Church of Phelps

58 Main Street
Phelps, NY 14532
315.548.2772

www.unitedchurchofphelps.org

Transitional Pastor – Reverend Ellen Donnan
Pastor Emerita – Reverend Shirley H. Filiatreau



FROM THE
PASTOR'S DESK

When are we going to have a new called and installed pastor? How long does it take?

These are questions that I don't hear often, but I know you are wondering when we will form a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC). The truth is that YOU have a lot of work to do with me before a PNC is formed. We need to work together on your past history and the insights you glean from looking back. We need to work together to determine what gifts and talents God has given each one of you to use in the ministry of the church. We need to work together to determine what qualities EVERYONE in the congregation desires in the next pastor. And we need to discern what ministry God is calling the congregation to do in the future. We have work to do together.

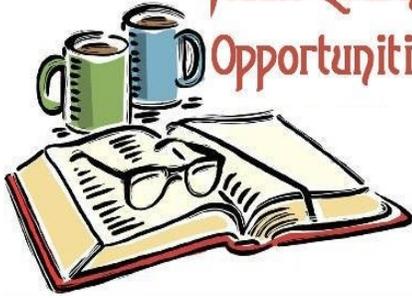
All of this is necessary in order to put together a **MISSION STUDY**. The Mission Study is information from the ENTIRE CONGREGATION (youth, young adults, adults, different groups in the congregation, members and friends) about the congregation and is needed to put together a Ministry Information Form (MIF) for the United Church of Phelps, representing everyone's input. The Mission Study must be approved by the Committee on Ministry of the Presbytery before we can move to elect a representative PNC and begin work on the MIF. The more details and information that is gleaned for the Mission Study, the easier it will be for the PNC to write the MIF – which also needs to be approved by the Committee on Ministry before it can be posted on the Church Leadership Connection that matches potential pastors with congregations.

Currently, a group is working with Pat Hemminger to pull the history of the church together, along with what was happening in Phelps, our country and the world from the time the churches united to form the United Church of Phelps. If you enjoy historical information and/or have some pictures or articles about things that happened in the church since the Methodist and Presbyterian churches united, please let Pat know.

Once that information is compiled and a display is ready for the congregation to look at, a time will be set for EVERYONE (it is important for everyone to participate in this process) to gather together and share thoughts and/or memories.

Then we can work on the next step in the process, which is asset mapping. Have questions about the process? Either stop by and see me or make an appointment to meet with me. And don't forget to pray daily for the church, myself, and your next pastor.

God bless! *Ellen*



Adult Learning Opportunities

This year's adult education class on Sunday morning at 9:30 will consist of a number of short DVD classes, including:

Goliath Must Fall by Louie Giglio. This 6 session study on David and Goliath deals with our giants: fear, Rejection, Comfort, Anger, and Addition. Don't know the Bible? No problem. Bring your questions.

There will be an advent study following **Goliath Must Fall**.



In the Holy Land are two ancient bodies of water. Both are fed by the Jordan River. In one, fish play and roots find sustenance. In the other, there is no splash of fish, no sound of bird, no leaf around. The difference is not in the Jordan, for it empties into both, but in the Sea of Galilee: for every drop taken in one goes out. It gives and lives. The other gives nothing. And it is called the Dead Sea.

William Sloane Coffin, former pastor at Riverside Church, New York City

Daylight Saving Time

Ends:
Sunday, November 3rd!



Turn your clock back on Saturday before you go to bed.

Decorating for Advent



Decorating for Advent will be Sunday, November 24th after church. We are planning on decorating the church this year based on the "Scrooge" series that Pastor Ellen will be doing this year. If anyone has any ideas, and Victorian type decorations you could loan, please see Penny or Hope Albrecht.

FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY IS THE 1ST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH!

The Phelps Community Food Cupboard depends on our generous donations. This is a mission that everyone can participate in.

Bring your non-perishable items to the altar or LOVE-OFFERING BOXES sit on the front pews and you can make a monetary donation during communion.

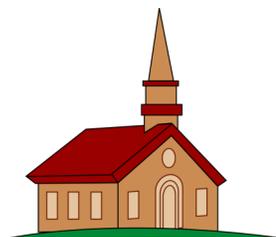
Also – the PENNIES FROM HEAVEN boxes are at the front door and office door.



Thursday, November 1st

We bless your holy name, O God, for all your servants who, having finished their course, now rest from their labors. Give us grace to follow the example of their steadfastness and faithfulness, to your honor and glory; through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

All Saints' will be honored on
Sunday, November 3rd



Worship Hours:

SUNDAYS:

Praise Music at 10:50 AM

Worship begins at 11:00 AM

THURSDAYS:

Coffee 6:45

Contemporary Worship 7:00

BOOK CLUBS ...

BOOK CLUB

Ellen is offering two book clubs, at different times and different books, this year.

For those who are able to meet in the **daytime**,

a group will meet on First and Third Tuesday, 1:00-2:30 pm, to discuss the book *Sensible Shoes* by Sharon Garlough Brown. This book is about four different women who meet at a spiritual formation journey at a retreat center. Each deals with different issues and each has a different experience with God.

An **evening book club** will meet in the evenings through out the year to discuss an older book, but a popular book, *The Shack* by William Paul Young. This group will meet the first and third Tuesdays, 6:30-8:00 pm. This book will give you thought about our God: Father, Son, and Spirit.

DROP IN WHENEVER YOU CAN



Sermon Series Schedule:

THE LORD'S PRAYER CONTINUES

*Our Father, who art in Heaven,
hallowed be Thy name
Thy Kingdom come
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven*

November 3 "Give us this day our daily bread"
Matthew 6:19-34

November 10 "Forgive us our sins as we forgive
those who sin against us" **Colossians 3: 1-17**

November 17 "Lead us not into temptation, but
deliver us from evil." **1 Timothy 6**

November 24 "For thine is the kingdom, the pow-
er, and the glory, forever. **Psalms 103**

Amen."



Sunday, November 24th

Almighty God, who gave your Son Jesus Christ a realm where all people, nations, and languages should serve him; make us loyal followers of our living Lord, that we may always hear his word, follow his teachings, and live in his Spirit; and hasten the day when every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that he is Lord; to your eternal glory. Amen.

YOUTH GROUP: Calling all youth in grades 6-12



Youth group will meet the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, alternating meeting location between Phelps and Junius.

The youth group will be taking orders for homemade Christmas cookies starting November 10. The funds that are raised will be used to offset the cost of Camp Casowasco and the New Wilmington Mission Conference, fun events open to friends, and other youth ministry related items.

For \$4, you can choose a dozen decorated sugar cookies, peanut butter kisses, chocolate chip cookies, snickerdoodles, peanut butter balls, or a mixed container. All cookies will be made by the youth from scratch and will be available for pickup on December 8.

Thanks for supporting our youth ministry! If you would like to help with this project (lending the youth a hand while they do the work), please let Ellen know.





Friday, November 15th 3pm-7pm
 Saturday, November 16th 8:30am-2pm

The Annual Holiday Bazaar: The United Church of Phelps Annual Holiday Bazaar dates have changed!! This fun-packed event is now scheduled for the 3rd weekend of November. **The new days (but same times) are**

November 15th from 3 to 7, and Saturday November 16th from 8:30 to 2. We have many events planned, but most of all, we hope for this to be an opportunity for fun and fellowship. It's a great way to begin to feel the awesome power of the birth of Jesus, and a time to take a moment to join together in community to share and care. Not sure what to do, please see Kathe Latch, Jane Pedersen or Linda Kataskas, we welcome any of your talents and time that you can offer.

*** There will be Homemade Soups/Chili, "To Go" only, Friday evening, and Soup/Chili and Sandwich offered Saturday 11:30-1. See Betsy Bourne if you would like to help.**

* We welcome your perishable/baked goodies: pumpkin or corn muffins, cookies, breads, pies, chocolate dipped pretzel rods, and other delicious food contributions to sell at the bazaar. Please have them at the church by Thursday, November 14th by 5PM.

*** We welcome your seasonal non-perishable donations: canned preserves, craft items, etc. Please drop them off at church by Friday, November 8th.**

Your overwhelming generosity and talents are recognized and appreciated. Many of our customers especially love certain items and return year to year. Thank you for your help and support.

Any questions, please see Kathe Latch, Jane Pedersen or Linda Kataskas.



A Little Piece of Your History

We have a number of wooden replicas of both the United Church (formerly the Presbyterian Church building) and the Methodist Church complete with the written history of the building. If you would like to have this keepsake, please visit the table in Social Hall and make a donation if possible. Thank you, and enjoy!!



Would you would like to share your musical talent with us? The Worship Choir leads the praise & worship songs, offers special music and provides the communion anthems.

Rehearsals are on Wednesday at 7pm

You can see Kay in church, e-mail her at kayoisk@hotmail.com or call her at 585.303.3116

We'd love to have you join us!!



Sunday, November 17th

November 17th is Bible Sunday and during worship our 3rd graders receive their Bibles. Come and bring the family and witness our children receiving their Bibles.

Our 3rd Graders:

Alé Caraballo and Egan Motzer

*"The Word of the Lord is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."
~ Psalm 119:105*

Expressing Gratitude

"The beauty and eloquence of an expression of gratitude is reflected in a newspaper story of some years ago:

"The District of Columbia police auctioned off about 100 unclaimed bicycles Friday. 'One dollar,' said an 11-year-old boy as the bidding opened on the first bike. The bidding, however, went much higher. 'One dollar,' the boy repeated hopefully each time another bike came up.

"The auctioneer, who had been auctioning stolen or lost bikes for 43 years, noticed that the boy's hopes seemed to soar higher whenever a racer-type bicycle was put up.

"Then there was just one racer left. The bidding went to eight dollars. 'Sold to that boy over there for nine dollars!' said the auctioneer. He took eight dollars from his own pocket and asked the boy for his dollar. The youngster turned it over in pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters—took his bike, and started to leave. But he went only a few feet. Carefully parking his new possession, he went back, gratefully threw his arms around the auctioneer's neck, and cried.

"When was the last time we felt gratitude as deeply as did this boy? The deeds others perform in our behalf might not be as poignant, but certainly there are kind acts that warrant our expressions of gratitude."

Thomas S. Monson, "Think to Thank," Ensign, Nov. 1998, 18)



Shhh
It's just a little reminder:

If church is closed, usually only due to inclement weather, notification of closing will be provided in numerous ways:

Facebook

Television: R-News, Channel 10, and Channel 13.



Normal Church Office Hours: Mon. 9-2, Tues. & Thurs. 9-4.



**Newsletter Articles
For December due
November 17th. Send
articles to
ucpnewsletter@gmail.com**

If you have an announcement that you would like to have scrolling on the screen in church before worship on Sunday, please contact Christina or Hope Albrecht. This is our new way to let us all know about upcoming events. Thank you



Mark your Calendar!! Haul out those recipes!!

Our church will celebrate **Our Blessings** (Stewardship Campaign) and **Thanksgiving November 17 at 5PM** with a Thanksgiving Potluck

We would like to share and taste those time-honored traditional favorites you love to make.

Be watching for an opportunity to volunteer to bring a veggie side, a dessert (Hint Betsy Bourne: Peach Pie), rolls, mashed potatoes, stuffing, gravy...etc.

We would ask that you make a batch to provide 8—10 servings.

It will be a time to rejoice and celebrate all our blessings and share our thanksgiving.



We need to hear from you:



If you are ill or hospitalized, or need a visit, or just a card, please let the church office know, or contact Rev. Ellen Donnan. We would then know where you are and that you are in need.



If anyone needs any help with yardwork, some work around the house and such, or a ride to church or doctors appointments and other services along these lines, please contact the office and we will do our best to find someone available to help them out.

Call 315.548.2772

“Never get tired of doing little things for others, sometimes those little things occupy the biggest parts of their hearts.” – Unknown



Church World Service: Tool & Blanket Sunday

Your support of CWS equips families worldwide with the tools that they need to build brighter futures – literally. Here’s how:

HAITI: over 630 people, including you, teamed up and built safe and sturdy housing that will last for decades.

KENYA: When the Tana River valley flooded, 300,000 people were displaced from their homes. Your support equipped these families with mobile toilets, water tanks, and the rebuilding they need to get back home.

VIETNAM: Over 8,700 people are now using new or improved latrines thanks to congregations like yours! Not only that, but families are learning how to build and fix these latrines so that’s a long-term investment.

ARGENTINA: In one the of driest regions of South America, your gifts help communities capture and store rainwater. Rainwater storage capacity in the region has been expanded by a million liters!! Visit their website:
www.cwsbestgift.org

**** Sunday, November 10th – Envelopes will be available in your bulletin. ****



UNITED CHURCH OF PHELPS
Contemporary Worship

Join us every Thursday Night
7:00-7:45.

Refreshment and snack will be
provided

315-548-2772

Find us on Facebook

All are welcome!!

IMPORTANT!! IMPORTANT!! IMPORTANT!!

Anti-Sexual Harassment Training:

There will be a training session at our church on Sunday November 3, 2019 at 12:30 - 2PM.

Who needs to complete? Anyone who is employed or could be paid for their service in our church.

What is this? This is a New York State Law 96 of 2018. This legislation strengthened protections against discrimination and harassment under the New York State Human Right Law. These protections supplement the laws that Governor Cuomo signed in April of 2019.

The United Church of Phelps is holding a free training session. Pizza will be available. There is also an on-line option that can be completed for those who can not attend the training. Certificates of completion need to be turned into the office when done. This will be a yearly event. Any questions please ask Pastor Ellen Donnan or Rose Copper-Brown; chair of Personnel Team.

~ ~ **Christian Education News** ~ ~



The Christmas Story by Leanne Guenther

This year's Children's Christmas presentation will be offered during worship on December 15. The children will be practicing for the presentation every Sunday morning from 9:30-9:45 in the Sanctuary. Everyone mark your calendar to come to this to relish fond memories of Christmas' past and enjoy this present one with these children.

Volunteers STILL NEEDED for the following:

- Nursery*
- Breakout*
- CE teacher subs*

Please see Hope Albrecht or Rita Caraballo to sign up.

No Christian Education classes on December 1st or December 29th.



BLESSING SUNDAY

November 17, 2019

This year's stewardship campaign focuses on BLESSINGS! God has blessed each one of us in so many ways and has provided for our needs. Instead of focusing on what is needed to fund the budget, the Stewardship and Finance Team is encouraging each of us to look at our BLESSINGS and decide what we can contribute in terms of time, talents, and resources to our ministry for God. We will be returning some of the blessings God has given us to use back to God. You will receive a BLESSING CARD in the mail which you are asked to complete and return on November 17 during worship, committing to share whatever you and God have agreed upon.

Jesus, this is our big-picture prayer, and we are convinced that it aligns with your heart. We pray for true transformation in the lives of the people we serve. May there be tremendous life change!



We are asking for marriages to be restored, people to be freed from addictions, and healing to take place in broken hearts. We pray for teens to rise into leadership in their schools, for our business leaders to speak boldly for you, and that each of us would see ourselves as an ambassador of your transforming power.

May we carry your name well Jesus and see many lives changed for the good.

The measure of a life, after all, is not its duration, but its donation.



Come, Experience ***The Miracle of Jesus*** December 8 from 6:30-8pm.

Bring your family and be transported back in time to the town of Bethlehem to celebrate the birth of Jesus. It has been some years since that special night, and the miracle baby has gone on to do some truly incredible things - bringing a little girl back to life, feeding thousands with just a few loaves of bread and some fish, and even overcoming death. Come experience the miraculous news -Jesus is with us.

A Sincere Thank You: A Difference IS Made!!

 Smorgasbord was a great success!! Thank you to sign posters, set up, cooks and bakers, servers, organizers, guests, clean up crew. We made \$1,312 and new friends.

We have both screens back in working order to use during worship. A huge thank you goes to Eddie Albrecht, Doug Latch, Paul Norton, Jerry Clark, Jed Brandow, and Brian Hemminger, and others.  We are blessed and enjoying their industry!!

 We offer our gratitude to all the help Julie Rands has been providing by posting to our website, and helping us realize the potential of the electronic age. Thank you Julie, we welcome your expertise and generosity.

Thank you to Kay Oosterling and all the members, past and present, who played a part in offering a magnificent Afternoon of Music.  Guests comments were filled with acclaim and joy.

 Thank you Marcus Driscoll for mowing and maintaining Methodist Park this summer. It was beautiful.

Thank you to the Youth Group for putting together 20 health kits. 

 Thank you to the unnamed folks who work tirelessly behind the scenes to make our church a wonderful worship place, and our faith community to live into our place in the present Kingdom.



November Birthdays:

8—Pastor Ellen Donnan
9—Erica Motzer
20—Peg Carlson
28—Carol Wickum
30—Phyllis Wagner

We wish each one best wishes on their day!!

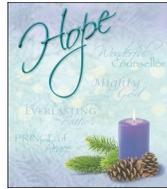
If you would like to have a listing in Birthdays and Anniversaries, please enter your information on Desk Calendar in back of Sanctuary, or call the office: 315-548-2772.



An Important Reminder: Distribution of names provided by the Lion's Club of needy children in our local communities for us to bless this Christmas will be on November 17th following worship.

As in the past, please try to take all the children in a family, or partner with another member, so that the presents for the siblings will reflect the same attention and generosity. Remember, this is likely the only gifts these children may receive this year.

Let's enjoy sharing our blessings!!



Would you like to donate the Thanksgiving, a set of Advent/Christmas bulletins in honor or memory of a loved one? Please see Hope Albrecht for the selection of this year's covers

Dates: 11/24, 12/8, 12/15, 12/22, and 12/24 Christmas Eve 7pm & 9:30pm
One person per date - first come, first served -- **** Donation of \$10.00 ****

Name: _____

In Memory/Honor of: _____

Given by: _____



Again this year our Sanctuary will be decorated with beautiful Christmas Poinsettias. The cost for each plant is \$10.00 payable at the time of your order. Please complete and mail this form or drop it into the mailbox on the Administrative Assistant's office door. You may also call the church office- 548-2772 or simply stop by to place your order. Deadline for all orders and payments is Tuesday, November 19th at Noon

Plant #1

_____ in honor of _____ in memory of

Name (s) of loved one (s) as you want it/them to appear in the bulletin.

Plant #2

_____ in honor of _____ in memory of

Name (s) of loved one (s) as you want it/them to appear in the bulletin.

Plant #3

_____ in honor of _____ in memory of

Name (s) of loved one(s) as you want it/them to appear in the bulletin.



Thanksgiving Day
Thursday, November
28th

“If you are grateful for everything, then whatever you have is enough.”
-- J. Baadsgaard



Veterans Day
Monday,
November
11th

God of compassion, God of dignity and strength, watch over the veterans of the United States in recognition of their loyal service to our nation.

Bless them with wholeness and love. Shelter them. Heal their wounds, comfort their hearts. Grant them peace.

God of justice and truth, Rock of our lives, bless our veterans, these men and women of courage and valor, with a deep and abiding understanding of our profound gratitude. Protect them and their families from loneliness and want. Grant them lives of joy and bounty. May their dedication and honor be remembered as a blessing from generation to generation.

Blessed are You, Protector and Redeemer, our Shield and our Stronghold. Amen.



Operation Christmas Child

Below is some information that will help you fill a box.

**** Boxes must be at church by 10:45am on Sunday Nov. 17th ****

Thank you for participating in this ministry!

Questions? Contact Dawn Norton at 462-3533 or dawnnorton19@gmail.com

Below is a list of what Operation Christmas Child likes to have included in each box.

Comb, Soap, Washcloth, Toothbrush, Crayons, makers, pens or pencil with sharpener, Small Notebook or Coloring Book, \$9 for the shipping fee, A 'Large' Toy/Item, Stuffed animal, doll, car, truck, Soccer ball with pump and needle, Puppets, flip flops, sewing kits, tools. 1 or 2 Small Toys/Items, Jacks, cards, airplanes, balls, sun glasses, kazoo, musical instrument, jump rope, flashlight w/extra batteries, solar calculator, hair ties, jewelry, Puppets, tee-shirt, drawstring backpack.

Other ideas

Socks, Mittens, Hat, A letter from you, a picture of you

Children might not read English so please make sure kids can just look at a toy and know how to play with it. If it takes batteries please include extras. Also please keep in mind that Dollar Stores are a great place to shop but please buy durable, quality items. It would be heart breaking to a child for their toy to break in the first few days they play with it.

Do Not Include

Used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives, or military figures; toothpaste, chocolate or food; candy; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.

**** Pray-Most importantly, pray for the child who will receive your gift. ****

How Can We Help You?

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| Transitional Pastor: Rev. Ellen Donnan 315-521-2593 (Cell) | Lay Member AC: Nan Clark 315.406-5526 | Personnel: Rose Copper-Brown 315.719.4292 |
| Church Office: Adm. Assistant 315.548.2772 | Advertising: Jed Brandow 315.548.2359 | Prayer Chain: Church Office 548.2772 |
| Christian Education: Rita Caraballo 315-548-2083 | Media/Technology: Eddie Albrecht 315.946.9729 | Prayer Ministry: Nan Clark 585.526.6694 |
| Council Chair: Pat Hemminger 315.548.3546 | Member at Large: Betsy Bourne 315.945.2307 | Presbytery Elder: Marsha Gibbs 315.548.5546 |
| Custodian: Frank VanNostrand 585.354.4126 | Memorial Fund: Cathy Scott 315.548.9448 | Sec'y to Council: Linda Kataskas 585.732.8892 |
| Endowment: Frank VanNostrand 585.354.4126 | Missions/Outreach: Peg Carlson 315.789.4713 & Brian Hemminger 315.521.0812 | Stewardship/Finance: Dave Wilson: 315.548.8823 |
| Financial Sect'y: Hope Albrecht 315.946.9729 | Music/Worship: Hope and Penny Albrecht 315.946.9729 | Trustees: Dan Moracco 315.548.4548 |
| Health/Service: Sharon Peets: 315.573.6849 | Nominating: Jane Pedersen 315.548.9397 | <i>"God is Good – All the Time!"</i> <i>"All the Time – God is Good!"</i> |



"Gifts of the Heart Health Kits"

The Mission Team continues to need your help in supplying the needs for the health kits! These kits make a big difference to people in need. See Peg Carlson or Brian Hemminger team for more information.

{Band-aids, hand towels and toothpaste ARE NEEDED to complete kits!!}

Kit Items:

One hand towel, one washcloth, one comb, one metal nail file/nail clipper, one bar of soap (bath size), one toothbrush, one tube of toothpaste (4-7 ounces), six band-aids

** Seal all items in a one-gallon plastic bag with a zipper closure and bring them to the church office. **

On-Going Mission Projects Everyone Can Support:

- * **1st Sunday of each month:** Food Pantry Sunday. Donations should be placed on the altar
- * **Pop Top Tabs:** Save those tabs! If your place of work has a vending machine set out a container for people to put them in. Let's help out the Ronald McDonald House!
- * **NYC Sock Mission:** Please keep the socks, mittens and winter hats coming! This is a great mission we do and it's on-going. When we have enough we ship them out!
- * **Red Bird Mission:** Please keep box tops coming in! We are amazed at how much good they really do.
- * **Medicine Bottle Collection:** Save up a group of your containers, peel the label off and wash them in warm soapy water. If label is stubborn, soak them in Oxi-clean detergent and hot water until you are able to easily remove the labels, and the glue. Then bring them into church and put them in the container Matthew 25 Ministries.



Volunteers for November 2019

Ushers and Greeters

Front Entrance

Nov 3 Wendy Holbrook & Jane Pedersen
(Communion)
Nov 10 Karen Moracco & Marge Norsen
Nov 17 Peg Carlson & BJ Hicks
Nov 24 Eric & Shelly Bengtson

Ramp Entrance

Jerry Clark & Hope Albrecht
Carol Adams & Penny Albrecht
Rose Copper-Brown & Irene Copper
Jed & Amy Brandow

Break-Out

Nov 3 Rita Caraballo
(Communion)
Nov 10 Barb Mater
Nov 17 Dawn Norton
Nov 24 Brian Hemminger

Media & Technology

Christina Albrecht
Kelly Bree
Doug Latch
Eddie Albrecht

Acolytes

Cheria Caraballo
Payton Reed
Alé Caraballo
Earl Motzer

Nursery

Nov 3 Rose Copper-Brown & Payton Reed
(Communion)
Nov 10 Amy Brandow & Cheria Caraballo
Nov 17 Samantha Minns & Payton Reed
Nov 24 Erica Motzer & Carol Adams

Lay Readers

BJ Hicks
Christina Albrecht
Linda Wood
Karen Moracco

Would you like to volunteer for any of the above opportunities? Nursery, Lay Reader, Usher/Greeter? Please see Hope or Penny Albrecht, Music and Worship Chairs to get signed up!