

# The TOWEL AND BASIN

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**Mission:** To be a spiritually passionate congregation that lives out Christ's teachings; through love-filled relationship building, we prayerfully seek to share our lives and resources with the community and the world



God is faithful, who has called you **into fellowship** with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

1 Corinthians 1:9

Session & Deacon  
Christmas Dinner

For where two **or** three gather in my name, there am I with them."

Matthew 18:20



Whoever does not **love** does not know God, because God is **love**.  
1 John 4:8





## From the Pastor's Heart



"I love you, O LORD, my strength. The LORD is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer, my God, my rock in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised, so I shall be saved from my en-

Missing family members that have passed away during the Christmastide can be so hard. During a sermon, I spoke about how profound my experience at the Taize Community in Burgundy, France helped to bring healing and forgiveness for the death of my grandfather in WWII, who I think of often, especially at Christmas. Go on a journey with me to the Taize community (virtually) to experience scripture reading, prayer and reflection.

1. Listen to the Sermon: "Trusting the Lord: Israel and Palestine" :<https://www.youtube.com/live/4c6MAtA2q8I?si=huDXDg7MzVpcKIKg>
2. Learn about the TAIZE community in Burgundy, France: <https://youtu.be/ngA8BFbjrE0?si=J0GqfKQ1sN2Y4IQj>
3. Participate virtually in a Taize Prayer Service: <https://www.youtube.com/live/zKMXRgs-zvk?si=wtM0QMRaGPt6I9KX>

Merry Christmas!

~Rev. Rachel Brown



# PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

## **The 2025-2026 Horizon's Bible Study is "Celebrating SABBATH"- Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight By Carol M. Bechtel**

Key ideas: As Lord of the Sabbath, Jesus invites all of us who are weary to celebrate a Sabbath that is more about "yes" than "no." Sabbath celebration is something that God has built into the structure of creation. Receiving that gift is part of what deepens our friendship with God, others and the rest of creation and it also involves a commitment to hospitality. Sabbath is first about honoring God.

Community is key for sustaining us in our Sabbath journey.

**We would like extend a warm welcome to every woman to join our monthly Circle meetings for Bible Study and Fellowship.**

### **CIRCLE MEETINGS:**

**Hannah Circle Wed. January 7th at 10:00am**  
Amy Low Room

**Elizabeth Circle Thurs. January 15th at 11:30am**  
Jania Smith's home

**Ruth Circle Wed., January 21st at 12:30pm**  
Amy Low Room

**PW Coordinating Team**  
January 6th, at 12:30

**Mission Quilters will January 21rd at 10:00 am**  
Fellowship Hall

**Thank you to all who donated mittens, scarves and hats to our mitten tree, they will be much appreciated.**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY

### Ushers

**Jan. 4** – Leanne Howe

**Jan. 11** – Kris McGuire

**Jan. 18** – Joanne Yoviene

**Jan. 25** – Julie Cimorelli

### Liturgists

**Jan. 4** – Pat Catalino

**Jan. 11** – Hal Lewis

**Jan. 18** – Jean Coffey

**Jan. 25** – Sandy Smith

## ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES

**FEBRUARY 18TH, 2026**

**~NOON IN THE CHAPEL**

**~7 PM IN THE CHAPEL**



## MAUNDY THURSDAY

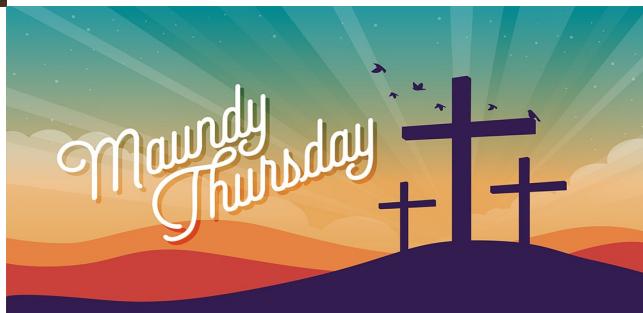
**APRIL 2ND, 2026**

**7PM IN THE CHAPEL**

## PALM SUNDAY SERVICES

**MARCH 29TH, 2026**

**10AM IN THE SANCTUARY**



## EASTER SUNDAY

**APRIL 5TH, 2026**

**10AM IN THE SANCTUARY**

# JANUARY Birthdays



January 1 Diana Perry  
 January 3 Katherine Leyonmark  
 January 6 Jeff Leyonmark  
 January 7 Linda Connelly  
 January 8 Joanne Yoriene  
 January 11 Julie Cimorelli  
 January 12 Helen Duryea  
 January 13 Gina Browning, Kate Zellefrow  
 January 15 Bonnie Orlow  
 January 16 Kristin DellaPenta

January 17 Janie Smith  
 January 18 Ben Reagan  
 January 19  
 January 21 Lucas and Liam Alimonti, Christian Lovelace  
 January 24 Sharon Fisk,  
 January 26 Kendra Quinn-Moultrie  
 January 27 Kristin Obenshain  
 January 28 Diane Tomlinson  
 January 29 Marcia Skuse



## Sandwich Sunday 1/18

Please bring individually wrapped sandwiches to church Sunday morning and put them in the coolers in the coat room. They will be delivered to Hamburg Hotels

**January Coffee Hour!**  
 Meet in the lounge after service for a time of fellowship!  
**4 Mission & Financial Management**  
**11 Building & Grounds**  
**18 Christian Ed**  
**25 Session**



**Non-perishable food items are needed for the Blessing Box located on Main St. lawn. Canned soups/stews/pasta, peanut butter and packaged dry goods are great items to share. Please note, no expired/close to expiration date items can be accepted. Thank you!**

## IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

Tracy Tone,  
 Jane Davis,  
 Doug Lehman,  
 Lois Cavanaugh,  
 Nancy Woods,  
 George Ackerman,  
 Jonah Delang,  
 Donna Burns,  
 Geralyn Bahruth,  
 Jackie Kalisz

\*Contact Church Office with prayer needs.

A big thank you to everyone who volunteered at **Christmas in the Country** (November 2025) and/or **Yuletide in the Country** (December 2025). Hamburg Presbyterian Church received \$3,300 from Premier Promotions for the volunteer hours provided. This wouldn't be possible without all the support and time given by HPC members, families and friends. Thank you again!!

Tracy Tone, Volunteer Coordinator

~Mark your calendars!!! **Springtime in the Country** will be held March 20-22, 2026



Session Budget Meeting Minutes: December 4th, 2025, 5:00 PM

Elders in Attendance: Rev. Rachel Brown, Chris Burns Sr., Jim Sampson, Jerry Stitt, Wayne Hines, Julie Mills, Vicki Quinn, Gary Lauchert,

JoAnne Yoviene, Hollis Bahruth.

Excused: None

Deacon Representative: None

#### Budget Session meeting:

- ❑ Rev. Brown called the meeting to order at 5:13 PM and offered an opening prayer.
- ❑ Motion to approve agenda by Jim Sampson. Second by Jerry Stitt. Carried by the Body.
- ❑ Chris Burns provided the devotional.
- ❑ Motion to approve minutes of the November 10<sup>th</sup> meeting by Hollis Bahruth. Carried.
- o Correction to minutes of November 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. Motion to call a congregational meet to approve Pastor's terms of call was actually raised by Jim Sampson, not Gary Lauchert.

#### Pastor's Report:

- ❑ Pastor Rachel will be away December 25<sup>th</sup> to January 2<sup>nd</sup>. Rev. Dorothy Pearman will lead the service on December 28<sup>th</sup>.
- ❑ Pastor Rachel will be at a prayer conference in New York City for Salvation Army January 30<sup>th</sup> to February 5<sup>th</sup>. Rev. Cynthia Wickwire-Lundquist will lead the service on February 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### Clerk's Report (Chris Burns, Sr.):

- ❑ Pastor's 2026 terms of call approved at congregational meeting on November 30<sup>th</sup>.
- ❑ Passed around sign-up lists for Communion and counting.

#### Treasurer's Report (Jim Sampson):

- ❑ Provided budget versus year-to-date actuals spreadsheet for review.
- ❑ Reviewed YTD 2025 actuals:
  - o Income is running slightly behind but may catch up as December is usually higher.
  - o Verify that all checks for facility usage have been received and recorded.

- ☒ Reviewed 2026 proposed budget:
  - Conservative pledge income budget of \$185,000.
  - Will use cash accounting going forward, not accrual accounting.
  - Discussed what constitutes Miscellaneous Income.
  - Utilities are sharply higher versus previous years.

**Ministry Teams REQUIRING ACTION:**

**Financial Management & Stewardship:**

- ☒ Motion by Financial Management to approve 2026 proposed budget as presented. Carried.

**Old Business:**

- ☒ Building fundraiser up to \$10,000, will continue into 2026.
- ☒ Mission still working on a meat raffle. Scheduled date is Saturday April 18<sup>th</sup>.

**New Business:**

- ☒ None.

**Open Discussion:**

- ☒ None.

**Next Meeting Date:**

- ☒ Monday December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 5:30 PM. Annual Session/Deacons Christmas dinner at the Villas at Brierwood.
- ☒ No meeting in January unless needed.

Rev. Brown provided the closing prayer at 6:03.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Burns Sr., Clerk of Session

# DAILY DEVOTIONALS FOR JANUARY, 2026

**Thursday, January 01, 2026**  
[Holy Name of Jesus](#)

**Thursday, January 01, 2026**  
[New Year's Day](#)

**Friday, January 02, 2026**  
[Psalm 20; Genesis 12:1-7; Hebrews 11:1-12;](#)

**Saturday, January 03, 2026**  
[Psalm 72; Genesis 28:10-22; Hebrews 11:13-22;](#)

**Sunday, January 04, 2026**  
[Second Sunday after Christmas Day](#)

**Monday, January 05, 2026**  
[Psalm 72; Joshua 1:1-9; Hebrews 11:32-12:2;](#)

**Tuesday, January 06, 2026:**  
[Epiphany of the Lord](#)

**Wednesday, January 07, 2026**  
[Psalm 72; 1 Kings 10:1-13; Ephesians 3:14-21;](#)

**Thursday, January 08, 2026**  
[Psalm 29; 1 Samuel 3:1-9; Acts 9:1-9;](#)

**Friday, January 09, 2026**  
[Psalm 29; 1 Samuel 3:10-4:1a; Acts 9:10-19a;](#)

**Saturday, January 10, 2026**  
[Psalm 29; 1 Samuel 7:3-17; Acts 9:19b-31;](#)

**Sunday, January 11, 2026:**  
[Baptism of the Lord](#)

**Monday, January 12, 2026**  
[Psalm 89:5-37; Genesis 35:1-15; Acts 10:44-48;](#)

**Tuesday, January 13, 2026**  
[Psalm 89:5-37; Jeremiah 1:4-10; Acts 8:4-13;](#)

**Wednesday, January 14, 2026**  
[Psalm 89:5-37; Isaiah 51:1-16; Matthew 12:15-21;](#)

**Thursday, January 15, 2026**  
[Psalm 40:1-11; Isaiah 22:15-25; Galatians 1:6-12;](#)

**Friday, January 16, 2026:**  
[Psalm 40:1-11; Genesis 27:30-38; Acts 1:1-5;](#)

**Saturday, January 17, 2026**  
[Psalm 40:1-11; 1 Kings 19:19-21; Luke 5:1-11;](#)

**Sunday, January 18, 2026**  
[Second Sunday after the Epiphany](#)

**Monday, January 19, 2026**  
[Psalm 40:6-17; Exodus 12:1-13, 21-28; Acts 8:26-40;](#)

**Tuesday, January 20, 2026**  
[Psalm 40:6-17; Isaiah 53:1-12; Hebrews 10:1-4;](#)

**Wednesday, January 21, 2026:**  
[Psalm 40:6-17; Isaiah 48:12-21; Matthew 9:14-17;](#)

**Thursday, January 22, 2026:**  
[Psalm 27:1-6; 1 Samuel 1:1-20; Galatians 1:11-24;](#)

**Friday, January 23, 2026**  
[Psalm 27:1-6; 1 Samuel 9:27-10:8; Galatians 2:1-10;](#)

**Saturday, January 24, 2026**  
[Psalm 27:1-6; 1 Samuel 15:34-16:13; Luke 5:27-32;](#)

**Sunday, January 25, 2026**  
[Third Sunday after the Epiphany](#)

**Monday, January 26, 2026**  
[Psalm 27:7-14; Judges 6:11-24; Ephesians 5:6-14;](#)

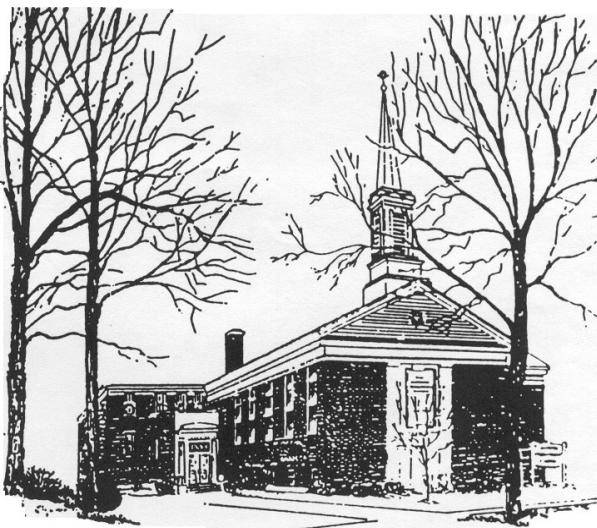
**Tuesday, January 27, 2026**  
[Psalm 27:7-14; Judges 7:12-22; Philippians 2:12-18;](#)

**Wednesday, January 28, 2026:**  
[Psalm 27:7-14; Genesis 49:1-2, 8-13, 21-26; Luke 1:67-79;](#)

**Thursday, January 29, 2026**  
[Psalm 15; Deuteronomy 16:18-20; 1 Peter 3:8-12;](#)

**Friday, January 30, 2026**  
[Psalm 15; Deuteronomy 24:17-25:4; 1 Timothy 5:17-24;](#)

**Saturday, January 31, 2026**  
[Psalm 15; Micah 3:1-4; John 13:31-35;](#)



## HAMBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

177 Main St.  
Hamburg, NY 14075

**Pastor** - Rev. Rachel Brown

**Minister of Music** - Jesse Bonaventura

**Pastoral Care Assistant** - Wendy Zimmerman

**Treasurer** - Blair Webster

**Financial Secretary** - Katie Gertner

**Church Office** - Hollis Bahruth

**Sexton** - Dave Monaco

**Office Phone** - (716) 649-1970

**E-mail** - [hamburgpres@gmail.com](mailto:hamburgpres@gmail.com)

**Web Page** - [www.hamburgpresbyterianchurch.org](http://www.hamburgpresbyterianchurch.org)

**Facebook** - <https://www.facebook.com/hamburgpresbychurch/>

**YouTube** <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCtZVuwF9DN62b-WK-ixq5Ug>



### Sunday Worship & Christian Ed Schedule

10:00am Worship Service  
in the Sanctuary and on Facebook  
**Worship Online with us!**

Visit our new website

[www.hamburgpresbyterianchurch.org](http://www.hamburgpresbyterianchurch.org) and click  
on the Media tab to the drop down Bulletin tab.  
Select the bulletin of the week and access [Facebook Live](#)



Please let Pastor Rachel  
know of your prayer  
needs by contacting her  
directly at (716) 444-  
7333.

All prayer requests are  
confidential and may be  
made through church  
email or by phone as  
well.



### Newsletter

#### Deadline

The deadline for the  
**February Issue** is  
**February 16, 2022**



### HPC OFFICE

#### Staff Listing

##### *Pastor*

Rev. Rachel Brown: 444-7333

##### *Minister of Music*

Jesse Bonaventure



#### HPC OFFICE

#### HOURS

(716-649-1970)

**Monday** 9am - 2pm

**Tuesday** 9am - 2pm

**Wednesday** 9am - 2pm

**Thursday** 9am-2pm

**Friday Closed**

In case of an emergency,  
Rev. Rachel Brown may be  
reached on her cell at 444-7333.

##### *Financial Secretary*

Katie Gertner: 400-4892

##### *Church Office*

Hollis Bahruth: 649-1970

##### *Sexton*

Dave Monaco: 398-1278



# January 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 <b>9:00am</b> United Church of God (FH)
4 <b>10:00am</b> Worship Service & Communion	5 <b>9:30am</b> Caregivers  <b>7:30pm</b> AlAnon	6 <b>11:00am</b> Worship Planning <b>12:30pm</b> PW (AL) <b>5:30pm</b> Chancel Choir <b>6:30pm</b> Bells	7 <b>7:30pm</b> AA (FH) <b>10:00am</b> Mission Quilters (FH)	8 <b>7pm</b> YogaFaith (FH)	9	10 <b>9:00am</b> United Church of God (FH)
11 <b>10:00am</b> Worship Service &	12 <b>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</b> <b>7:00pm</b> Worship and Music (Z) <b>7:30pm</b> AlAnon	13 <b>11:00am</b> Worship Planning & Staff <b>5:30pm</b> Chancel Choir  <b>6:30 pm</b> Bell Choir	14 <b>11am</b> Hannah Circle <b>7:30pm</b> AA (FH)	15 <b>10:30am</b> Elizabeth Circle <b>7pm</b> YogaFaith (FH) <b>6:30pm</b> Deacons	16	17 <b>9:00am</b> United Church of God (FH)
18 <b>10:00am</b> Worship Service & Sandwich Sunday	19 <b>7:30pm</b> AlAnon (FH)	20 <b>11:00am</b> Worship Planning <b>5:30pm</b> Chancel Choir  <b>6:30pm</b> Bell Choir	21 <b>7:12:30pm</b> Ruth Circle (HPC Lounge) <b>:30pm</b> AA (FH)	22 <b>7pm</b> YogaFaith (FH)	23	24 <b>9:00am</b> United Church of God (FH)
25 <b>10:00am</b> Worship Service	26 <b>7:30pm</b> AlAnon (FH)	27 <b>11:00am</b> Worship Planning <b>5:30pm</b> Chancel Choir  <b>6:30pm</b> Bell Choir	28 <b>7:30pm</b> AA (FH)	29 <b>7pm</b> YogaFaith (FH)	30	31