

# North Church Chimes

MARCH 2026



## We are a congregation that gives back

Giving is one of the most powerful ways to make a difference. Whether it's responding to a disaster, supporting a local food bank, or funding global aid, every donation carries the hope that it will directly improve lives. Here is a list of donations that were made in 2025 on behalf of our congregation because of your generous donations.

Twin City Taks Force	436
YWCA of Niagara	210
<u>Feedmore WNY</u>	416
Wheels for Workers	150
Niagara Gospel Mission	620
Matthew 25 Center	150
TCCO Twin City Clothing Closet	400
Our Little Roses	250
Salvation Army	100
Roswell	150
Camp Duffield	50
Presbytery Per Capita	4960
Peacemaking	120
Presbyterian Disaster Fund	350
One Great Hour of Sharing	140
Pentecost	82
Christmas Joy	137

### One Great Hour of Sharing

OFFERING DISTRIBUTION:

- 36%** Presbyterian Hunger Program
- 32%** Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
- 32%** Self-Development of People

[pcusa.org/oghs](http://pcusa.org/oghs)

### Pentecost Offering

OFFERING DISTRIBUTION:

- 40%** Congregational ministries with children at risk
- 60%** Presbyterian Mission Agency
  - > 50% ministries with youth and young adults
  - > 10% child advocacy/children at risk

[pcusa.org/pentecost](http://pcusa.org/pentecost)

### Peace & Global Witness Offering

OFFERING DISTRIBUTION:

- 25%** Congregational peace and witness efforts
- 25%** Presbytery and synod peace and witness efforts
- 50%** Presbyterian Mission Agency
  - > peacemaking, reconciliation and global witness

[pcusa.org/peace-global](http://pcusa.org/peace-global)

### Christmas Joy Offering

OFFERING DISTRIBUTION:

- 50%** Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions
- 50%** Leadership development and education at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color

[pcusa.org/christmasjoy](http://pcusa.org/christmasjoy)



Those who are happiest are those who do the most for others

Booker T Washington





In the event of weather-related cancellations, call church office at 716.693.7030 and listen to message left on the church office phone, if no closing information is posted by 10 am, church will be open as usual.

We also report closing to Channel 2 WGRZ

**Note: Church closings are not always reported on TV often they just put it on their website.**



One Great Hour of Sharing — Offering season  
Feb. 18–April 5, 2026

Causes supported: disaster, hunger, poverty,  
climate change, immigration, migration and refugees.

Envelopes are available in the front and rear  
entrance of church.

## RUMMAGE SALE

Saturday, April 25

You may drop off items  
any time for now until  
April 18

Please no clothes

Leave items under stairs  
in basement

Office Hours  
M-W 9-2

Set Up Date  
April 18



- March 1 Drew Ludwig
  - Session Meeting
  - Deacons Meeting
- March 8 Drew Ludwig
  - Baptism of Elliotte
  - Presbyterian Women Meeting
- March 15 Drew Ludwig
- March 22 Drew Ludwig
  - Coffee Hour in honor of Sue Kehrer



Heavenly Father, we lift in prayer those who are hurting and we ask for your comforting presence to surround them. May they feel your love and peace in their hearts, reminding them that they are not alone in their struggles. We pray for our North Presbyterian Family as we also lift in prayer those who need our faithful prayers ~ Judy L, Andrew, Patricia, Roger, David, Jessica, Jane, Elaine F, Michele, Terry R, Jean, Mary, Justine, Michele, Deborah T, Lindsay, Tim, Jeff, Gloria, Alex V, David P, Ginger M, Kathy C, Brenda M., Jerry C, Bev & Sam T, Bob G, Kristin L, Chrissy B, John C., Seth, Santo M., Debra D. and Wally F.

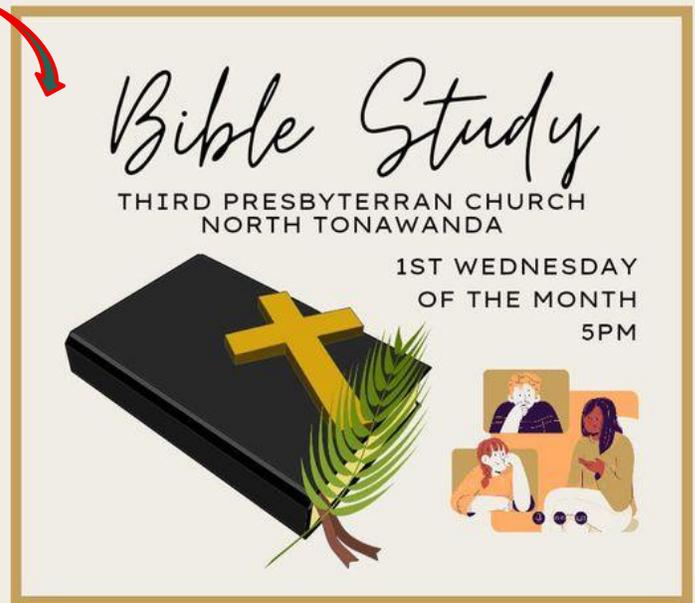
*With Mark Aquino!*

### *Office Hours*

*M, T, W 9-2*

*Church Office will be closed*

- *March 11, 16, 17, 18*



If anyone wants weekly bulletin or chimes sent to home address, please contact the office (716) 693-7030.

If you would like to submit item to be placed in bulletin, please call or email office by Monday for submission to be added to Sunday's bulletin.

If you would like to submit information to added to Chimes, please submit to office by the 20th of the month before issue (ex. Submit by Feb 20<sup>th</sup> for March Chimes).

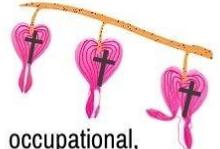
*Three Wonderful Retreats Presented by  
Sr. Marcella Kiesel, OSF*

A Franciscan Sister of Penance and Christian Charity, an international congregation. Her ministries have included registered nursing, college teaching, rural and urban work directly with the poor, teaching English to immigrants, and directing retreats throughout the United States, Canada, and in Tanzania, East Africa. Sister Marcella presently resides in a hermitage on campus and is available for Spiritual Direction through the Center of Renewal.

**Saturday, April 18, 2026 - 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM**



**Spiritual Transformation In Suffering**



We can each experience a wide range of suffering in our daily lives: Physical, emotional, mental, spiritual, social, occupational, relationship, divorce, trauma, financial, diminishments of any kind. This special retreat day will open new possibilities about how to deal with suffering in our lives with a meaningful connection to our own spirituality.

**Cost: \$65.00**

**Reservation Deadline - April 2, 2026**

**Includes retreat, lunch and the book Teilhard de Chardin Seven Stages of Suffering: A Spiritual Path for Transformation by Louis M. Savary and Patricia H. Berne**

*Thank you for the beautiful  
Valentine gift bag! It means so  
much to me.*

*♥ Eileen Troy*

*Dear Church Members,  
John and I wish to thank  
you so very much for the  
Valentine gift bag. We  
appreciate you always  
thinking of us. We loved  
everything that was in the gift  
bag.*

*Sincerely,  
John & Shela Cox*

*Used Book Sale  
Feb 28 – March 7  
12-4 pm  
NT History Museum  
712 Oliver Street*

# SCOTTISH VARIETY SHOW

SAT, MARCH 7, 4:30 PM

@YOUNGSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

100 CHURCH ST., YOUNGSTOWN, NY 14174

FEATURING  
MACKENZIE  
HIGHLANDERS +  
ROYAL SCOTTISH  
COUNTRY  
DANCE SOCIETY +  
STEP IN TIME

\$40/ADULTS  
\$25/LADS & LASSES  
\$280/TABLE OF 8

TICKETS INCLUDE

**FOOD, ENTERTAINMENT &  
SCOTTISH DANCE LESSONS  
(& DOOR PRIZE)**

BUY TICKETS AT THE CHURCH OR  
CALL/TEXT CHARLOTTE 716-531-3049

**A HUGE FUNDRAISER FOR OUR YOUTH!**

# ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

February 1, 2026

A quorum was met and meeting opened with prayer by Reverend William Hennessy at 12:47pm

A motion was made by Donna Freiert and seconded by Kevin Cox and carried to accept minutes of Congregational meetings on February 2, 2025, and July 6, 2025

- Reports were reviewed and Received
- Peter Somerville reported that Karl Wende would be stepping down as Treasurer and Finance Committee in July. He stressed the need for the congregation to come forward to find replacements.
- Sarah Franco reported for the Pastoral Nominating Committee. She explained the role of the Bridge Pastor to the congregation
- April Sasso explained financial reports to the congregation.
- Donna Freiert asked if any shortfall on the Family Christmas Dinner could be picked up by the congregation. On the motion of Ginger Mitchell and second of Donna Freiert this was carried.
- Rose Mitchell shared concerns about the Women's Association Picnic being held as congregational picnic and possible change of location.
- Donna Freiert questioned where our per capita money was going. April explained that it going directly to the Presbytery.
- The 2025 Necrology was read by Peter Somerville with prayer by Reverend Hennessy.

A motion to adjourn was made by Lynda Cox and seconded by Rose Mitchell.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:26pm with prayer by Reverend Hennessy.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter W Somerville, Jr  
Clerk of Session

# North Church

## MEMORIES



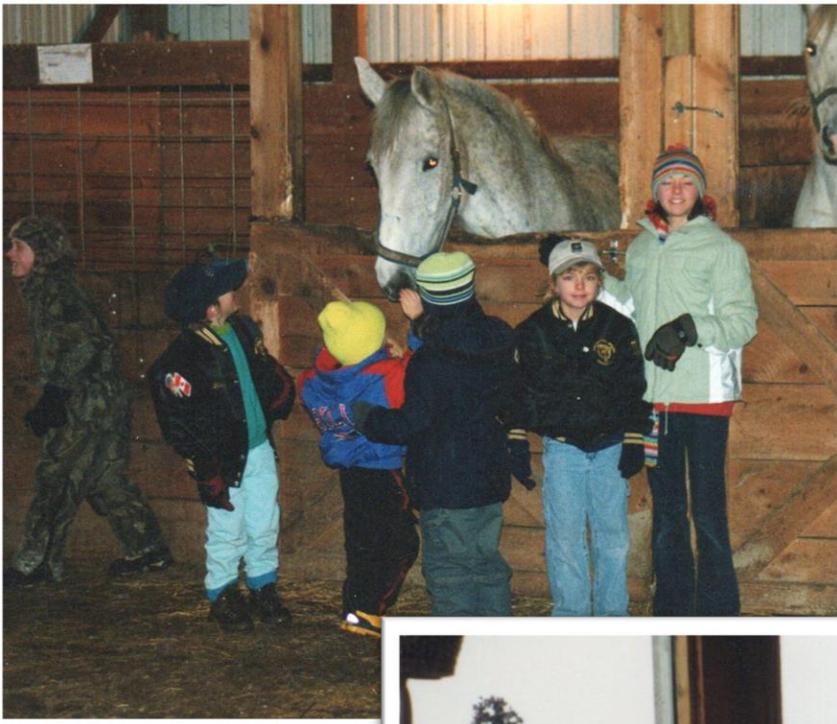
## March Birthdays

*As you grow another year older, may you also grow deeper in your faith and closer to God. May His wisdom guide you and His love comfort you.*

*Lucas Keagel 9  
Marilyn Ventry 22  
Judy Michael 29*

*Catherine Hartman 13  
Samantha DeMatteo 22  
Everett Jacob Pastwik 29*

*Cynthia Kureczka 17  
Sandra Sikora 28  
Edison Raynor 21*



OVER 100 BASKETS!



DOOR PRIZES & 50/50!

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

# BASKET RAFFLE

SUNDAY, MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup>

DOORS OPEN 1PM | DRAWING AT 3PM



TICKETS: 1 SHEET/\$5 OR 5 SHEETS/\$20 | 25 TICKETS PER SHEET  
61 PAYNE AVENUE, NORTH TONAWANDA, NY 14120

### PRIZES INCLUDE



NINJA FOODI COOKER PRO



ROKU PROJECTOR



L'OR BARISTA SYSTEM



40" FHD SMART TV

# Rainbow Rink Christian Skate

10/6/25  
11/3/25  
12/1/25  
1/5/26  
2/2/26  
3/2/26  
4/6/26  
5/4/26  
6/1/26  
7/6/26

FIRST MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH

101 OLIVER STREET NORTH TONAWANDA  
NY 14120

716-693-1100

[www.Rainbowrink.com](http://www.Rainbowrink.com)

5:00 - 8:00 PM  
\$10 ADMISSION

## Center of Renewal at Stella Niagara

4421 Lower River Road, Stella Niagara, New York 14144

716-754-7376 \* [stellaniagararetreats.org](http://stellaniagararetreats.org)

## Till Death Do Us Part

April 8, 2026

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Facing challenges you never envisioned before/after losing your husband?

This retreat is for you!

Testimonies, discussions, devotions, and encouragement through the Lord's help.

This is not a pity party but a fellowship and thinking outside the box on how to reach out to others.

Cost: \$10.00

## A Special Message For All Church Communities

Retreat Accommodations Available

Unite Your Church Family

with a **RETREAT**

Call Today To Make Your Reservation 716-754-7376

Youth Retreat

Men's Retreat

Women's Retreat



# Niagara County 55+ Resource Day

Wed. March 4  
12:30 - 3:00 p.m.

Gratwick Hose Company  
110 Ward Rd.  
North Tonawanda 14120



## Join us!

Discover the services and support available to older adults in Niagara County. Connect with professionals who can help you or a loved one navigate the aging journey.

Meet representatives in **elder law, financial planning, Medicare, senior living, health and wellness**, and more.

**Guest Speaker at 2:00 p.m.**  
*Topic: The Importance of Patient Safety*

## Free & Open to the Public!

**Guest Speaker:**  
**Mary Brennan-Taylor,**  
Vice President of Programs for YWCA of the Niagara  
Frontier and Founding Member of Team Alice



*"Saving Alice: A Primer on Geriatric Patient Safety"*  
Hear about Team Alice which was inspired by the story of Alice Brennan and the tireless efforts of her daughter, Mary Brennan-Taylor, to drive positive change among health care professionals and across the system.

## Presented to you by



*Our mission is to enhance  
services for the aging in  
Niagara County.*



**Basket Raffles**



**Refreshments**



**Vendors & Presentations**

[www.caseniagara.com](http://www.caseniagara.com)

Questions about this event?  
Contact Courtney @ [CLSipes@alz.org](mailto:CLSipes@alz.org)