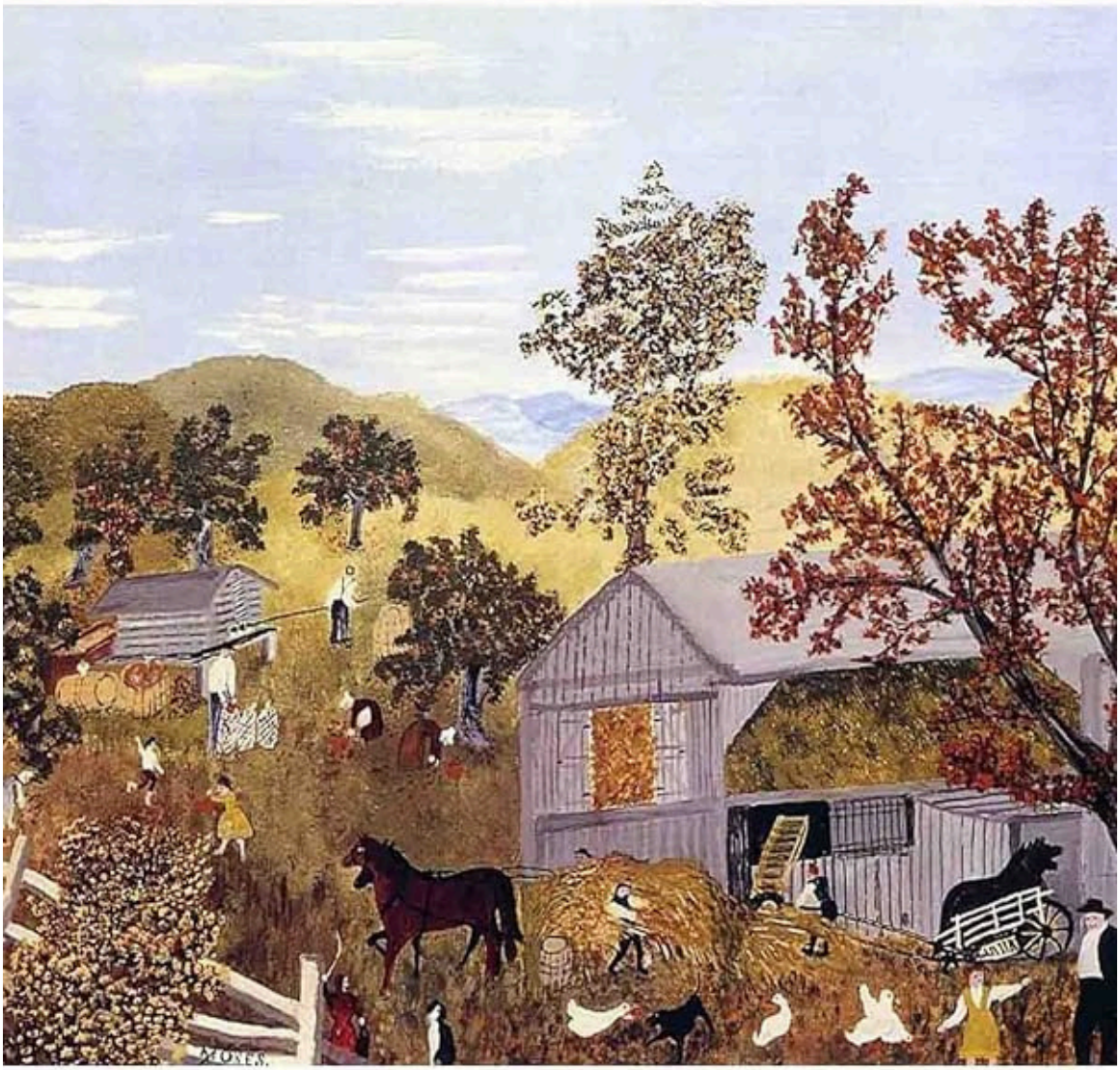
# The Fredonia Presbyterian

NOVEMBER
2026



'In Harvest Time' Grandma Moses, 1945

In this newsletter you can expect:


-Pastor's Article (page 2)

-The News in People (page 3)

-Church Calendar (page 4)

-Calls for Volunteers, Event News (page 5

-Articles & Points of Interest from our congregation (page 6+


## Here's what happened in the last month, and what's to come!

Blessings abound, is all this editor can think lately. A halcyon autumn: new members joyfully 'official,' the hundreds of hearts and hands that went into collecting so much good food for our pantry, and great fun on our first annual Trunk or Treat event.

November brings a (much needed) bit of a slowdown, perfect for reflecting on said blessings and more. I keep one item on my fridge all year long, a colored page that says Thankful.

-Enjoy this month's newsletter, t

"Attention is the beginning of devotion."

-Barbara Brown Taylor

"Gratitude is the most fruitful way of deepening your consciousness that you are not an 'accident,' but a divine choice." -Henri Nouwen

It’s not Christmas, yet. Be here—in November.

Sure, sure, you can do some Christmas shopping (but that can happen all year). Give yourself space to enjoy this moment. November is a strange month. It’s almost a holding pattern as we bite our nails worrying about the craze between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

But what if we didn't?

What if November was allowed to just be November? A month for crisp air, warm kitchens, football, changing leaves, and gathering around tables. A month for noticing the people around us and being grateful for the ordinary, wonderfully imperfect lives we get to share.

I think sometimes we rush right past the good stuff because we're busy preparing for the next good stuff (which can lead to disappointment). We hurry toward Christmas, toward the next celebration, the next big thing, and miss the little things happening right in front of us.

And there's plenty happening right here. People showing up for one another. Neighbors helping neighbors. Someone making coffee, someone stocking shelves at the Fred Basket, someone checking in on a friend. These aren't grand gestures, but they are the small, everyday ways love takes shape.

So this November, let's practice being where we are. Let's enjoy the season we're in, give thanks for the people beside us, and resist the urge to rush ahead.

Christmas will come. It always does.

But November deserves a little love, too.

-Holly

# November 2026- the news in people

## Birthdays!

1 Jackson Spangler
4 Dustin Lukach
5 Mark Piazza
8 Ellen Vacanti
Steve Harp
Heather McMinn
8 Alice Schulenberg
9 Roger Schulenberg
14 Heath Forster
17 Lillian Divine
18 Cori Coia
19 Connie Griffith
21 Travis Gordon
26 Ron Chwojdak
Mark Thomas
Rain English
Jacob English
29 Susan Guziec

### Anniversaries!

3 Dustin & Marcie Lukach 2007
7 Ned & Lillian Divine 1987
8 Stephen & Barb Lucariello 1980
17 Holly & KC Clark-Porter 2011
23 James & Susan Pepe 1996
24 Ron & Melissa Chwojdak 1978
26 Joe & Carol Calarco 1986

## Prayer List

Lorraine Withington
Carrie Divine
Deb
Sharyn Duff-Kibbee
Gary Chwojdak
Peggy Tiffany
Wayne & Susan
Susan Faust
Aunt Kristi
Carter
Carl
Dawn & Bob Dopler
Jean Dawes
Thiago Reyna & Luis
John
Michelle
Nellie
Kim & family
Jean
Sharon Piehler
The McMahon family
Carol
Sue Duff
Alice
Janice
Sue Guziec & the Thompsons
Carolyn McMinn
Janna Cannady

The Keppel Family – especially children
Matthew Carman
The Colvenbach family
John Irish's friend in Saudi Arabia
Piper
Lucy
Garrett
Ethan & Laura
Baby Luke
Hannah
Michele B
Jessica & baby, Charlotte Rose 8/9
Kathy Hoffmann
Gunnar Pietsch

## In Memoriam

Dick Watt
11/4/25

Carmen Rodriguez
11/9/25
Lillian's sister

Nov 1, 2026

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** | **7** |
| Choir 9:30<br>Worship 10:30 | | Bible Study 5p-6p | Food Pantry mtg 11a, FP 12:30a-4:30p | NA -7pm | | Lakeshore Fellowship 12:30p-6p |
| **8** | **9** | **10** | **11** | **12** | **13** | **14** |
| Choir 9:30<br><br>Worship 10:30 | | Bible Study 5p-6p | Fred Basket Food Pantry 12:30p-4:30pm | Compeer Lunch 9a-4p<br>Mission mtg 4:30p<br>Spiritual Formation Mtg 6p-7p | NCCF 9:30a-1:30p<br>Stewardship Soiree 6p-7p | SigmaKappa 10a-1p |
| **15** | **16** | **17** | **18** | **19** | **20** | **21** |
| Choir 9:30<br><br>Worship 10:30 | | Bible Study 5p-6p | Fred Basket Food Pantry 12:30p-4:30pm<br>Book Club 7p-8p | NA -7pm | Kids' Movie Night 6p | Fred Basket 10am-12pm<br>Lakeshore Fellowship 12:30p-6p |
| **22** | **23** | **24** | **25** | **26** | **27** | **28** |
| Choir 9:30<br><br>Worship 10:30 | | Compeer 9a-12:30p<br>Food Pantry 12:30-4:30<br>Bible Study 5p-6p | | NA -7pm | next wknd is Christmas Festival! | |



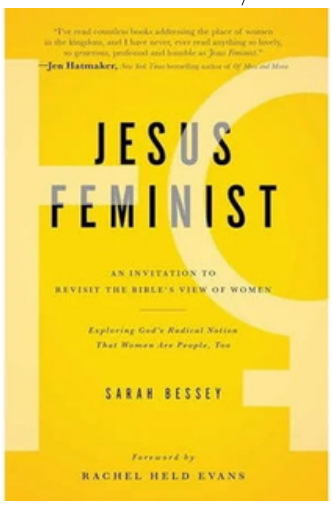




We celebrated 11 new members, with joy and with cake, on October 11th!

4 not pictured

## Book Club meets 11/18




All are welcome, see Bridget with questions

## Earth Care moment- the art of Furoshiki



Consider wrapping your holiday gifts in fabric! Reusable and beautiful.

FISHERS -by Joe Calarco

I begin my morning prayers with a devotional from “Our Daily Bread.” Recently, in the scripture Jesus told His apostles to “Follow Me and I will make you Fishers of men.” (Matthew 4:19 KJV)

My mind returned to an experience 40 years ago as if it were yesterday. It was my first weekend at Kairos Prison Ministry. Thirty team members, 42 inmate candidates, and 13 inmate helpers; 85 men, Thursday through Sunday. Although we did not sleep in the prison, but in a local church, we were in a large gym from 8 am to 9 pm eating, singing, and praying together.

Carol was on the Outside team, praying and supporting the Inside team. One of their gifts to the candidates was to make a 12” x 18” inch banner for every candidate. Beginning with a blank cloth, using colored cutouts, she would create 42 banners with a scene and a spiritual saying: “God Loves You”, “You are Forgiven”, “Trust in the Lord”, “Peace be with you,” (You get the idea). When she finished, she would put them all on long tables. She was given a list of the candidates, first names and last name initial, and wrote names on the banners, not knowing the men.



A highlight of the weekend was when the men were presented their personal banners, with their names on it. They were amazed how their banner was very appropriate to each one of them.

One man at my table was overwhelmed when he received his banner. It was a scene of a man standing on the bank of a stream with a fishing pole in his hand. The words were, “Be a fisher of men.” In the bottom right hand corner was his name… Peter F. (Fisher!)

# Heroes, United!
# ~3500 lbs of food collected

## The Businesses

75+ Fredonia and Sheridan businesses filled the Fred Basket, and so many area residents too! We are so appreciative of our hometown heroes!




WOW! The team at Basil Chevrolet collected ~500 lbs!!

## Our 2026 Volunteers:

Kenna & Quinn
Jeannie
Connie
Mary & Jack
Peg & Sue
Alex
Erika
Bridget & Gordon
Kathy
Tom & Betsy
Cindy & Tom
Trish & Paul
Holly
Tina
Joe & Carol
Jaala & her team
Gina
Janine

-you are superheroes

Thank you so much


















## Blessings abound as town rallies!

So many heroes were involved in this, from our own volunteers to business participants, the schools and teacher coordinators, the residents who remembered to bring items in to their favorite locales. Thank you, thank you, to all.

Because of this amazing townwide effort we were able to FILL the Fred Basket, ensuring full cupboards and tables for over 175 local families, and always the potential for more.

If you know someone in need, please let them know about all we offer.

www.fredoniapres.org/food-pantry











# Trunk or Treat '26!

Spooky & sweet fun was had by all as we hosted about 200 trunk or treaters for this first annual event. A huge thank you to all who decorated a trunk and gave out treats!!













| The Fredonia Presbyterian | NOVEMBER 2026 |
| --- | --- |
| www.fredoniapres.org | 219 Central Ave<br>Fredonia, NY 14063 |

