

Potsdam First Presbyterian

"A community gathering in Christ and ministering as God leads."

Where people gather to support each other in their spiritual development;

Where worship is designed to remind us all of the faithful presence and grace of God;

Where people love to sing in order to praise God and encourage each other in faithful living;

Where each week organists play a fine pipe organ and, along with the choir, bell ringers and other instrumentalists, inspire the congregation to new faithfulness;

Where college students and youth are respected, listened to, and expected to be part of the family of faith that includes all ages;

Where children learn to love God by engaging in worship and hearing the stories of faith from energetic teachers; where their growth into lives of joy and service is supported by a loving community;

Where our words in worship include all people, and the communion table is open to all who trust Jesus Christ;

Where people can easily become involved in Christian service to others both within the local community and in the larger world;

Where elected elders, deacons, and the pastor guide us in our worship and work, and link us to the wider church beyond our doors;

Where people have many opportunities to learn, while enjoying the company of others;

Where all are encouraged to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ.

some highlights of our Ministry and Programs

MISSION

MINC Rural Rehab
Jubilee Christmas
Jubilee Easter
Neighborhood Center
Helping Hands
Community Dinners
Head Start
Red Cross Blood Drives
Support of Mission Work
in Malawi and Pakistan
Special Offerings
UNICEF
Heifer International

MUSIC

Westminster Choir
Handbell Choir
Philhymnonic Orchestra
Contemporary Praise
Group

FELLOWSHIP

Weekly Coffee Hour
Palm Sunday Breakfast
Church Retreats
Game Nights
Ecumenical Events,
Potluck Dinners,
Special Programs.

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays - 10:00am (9:30am Jul.-Aug.)

Pastor - Dr. D. Richard Will

Director of Music - Laura Toland

EDUCATION & SERVICE LEARNING

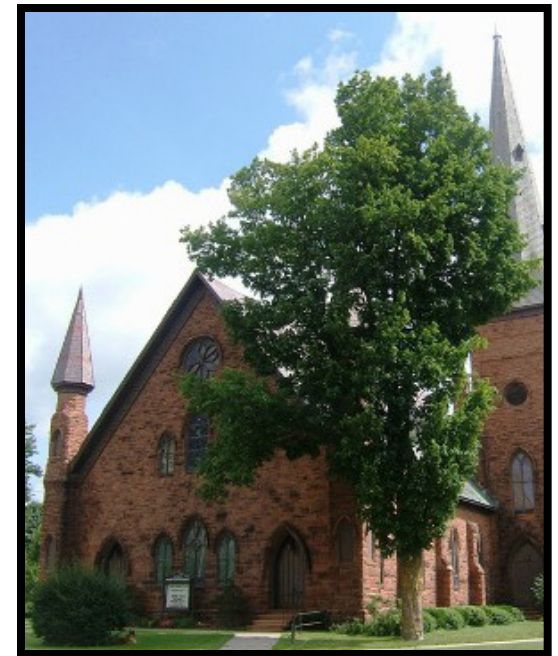
Sunday School
Children's Message
Vacation Bible School
Youth Group
Confirmation Classes
Special Programs
Sunday Dinners for
College Students
Adult Bible Study
Book Group
Knitting Group
Ladies Guild
New Member Classes
Participation in the
Worship Services
Mission Projects

Affiliation:

We are a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA), located in the Synod of the Northeast and the Presbytery of Northern New York. We are governed by a group of elected elders who make up the Session, and are led by the Pastor. We also elect a Board of Deacons to minister to the people in and outside of the congregation.

3rd Century Roof Renovation Capital Campaign

First Presbyterian Church *Celebrating its Bicentennial in 2011*



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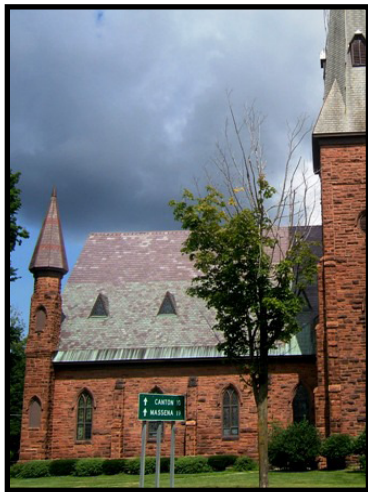
www.potsdampresbyterian.org

3rd Century Roof Renovation Capital Campaign

Our Goal: \$200,000

A Brief History:

Potsdam First Presbyterian Church has a rich history of ministry in the North Country. Founded in 1811 by a meager band of eleven souls, First Church was initially instituted to promote spiritual growth and enhance the spiritual life of the small community of Potsdam. As Potsdam grew, so did First Church. The first school (Academy, then 'Conference Room') was built in 1810 by Benjamin Raymond with The Rev. James Johnson as its first Teacher and Nahum Nixon as its First Principal. The first church building was erected in 1820 (the White Church) and was used until 1853 when the Brick Church was built. This edifice was sold to the State of New York.



The construction of the present Sandstone Church was begun in 1868 and completed in 1872. During this time, the slate roof that we see today was installed.

The Needs:

Over the past few years, the slate roof over the Sanctuary and Head Start Classrooms has been leaking with increasing frequency. A number of contractors have been engaged to repair these leaks. They have had varying degrees of success. Some twenty years ago, the leaders of the church made an assessment, the result of which called for eventual major repairs or replacement. In the fall of 2007, a task force was established to revisit this concern. In the spring of 2008, proposals were presented that included: 1) continuing minimally to repair and patch; 2) building a new edifice; 3) replacing the entire roof to a tune of \$800,000 or more; or 4) seeking a reputable expert roof specialist to make permanent repairs to the entire roof system. The governing body of the church decided to go with option four. It received bids, and from them chose Statewide Roofing whose record of excellent craftsmanship and expertise in slate roofing is unmatched. The overall cost of the project (a three year undertaking) will be \$200,000, with the initial outlay of \$60,000 due at the end of summer 2009. The first part of the work is scheduled to begin early this summer.

Ways to Help:

As a medium size congregation, Potsdam First Presbyterian Church is able to minister in many ways to its members and friends and to the community at large. Some of those ways are listed in this flyer. However, taking on a project this size requires additional help from many sources. We have initiated a pledge drive that offers different ways to contribute. The membership/friends capital campaign will be spread over a five-year period with the following opportunities to give:

A: \$55/mo., \$667/yr. or \$3333 lump sum

B: \$66/mo., \$800/yr. or \$4000 lump sum

C: \$83/mo., \$1000/yr. or \$5000 lump sum

Plan Angel: A lump sum of any amount.

We encourage those outside our congregation prayerfully to consider participating in this campaign in whatever way they can.

We need you to help us move into our third century of Christian ministry by contributing to our special campaign to repair the roof of Potsdam First Presbyterian Church.