



January 2026

I am on Facebook, as are many of you. I enjoy looking at the words and pictures posted by my friends. I appreciate when people view my posts and react in some way—maybe a “thumbs up” or “heart” sticker. I take pleasure in knowing that I have been noticed, that people see me. For a brief moment, I count for something. What I think and how I feel seem to matter.

For me, those reactions are cathartic. Perhaps that is why I am so generous with my stickers. I especially like to leave one on a post for which there has been no others over many hours or days. I know how that feels, too. So, click . . . you did not write in vain . . . your thoughts were not lost to the wind. You matter, at least to me, in this moment. I see you.

I suspect many of you are the same way, and not just on social media. When talking with someone, isn't it rewarding to know that the other person is really listening? You suspect that they are, given their facial expressions and gestures. Your suspicion is confirmed when they repeat or rephrase the things you say, and ask good questions along the way.

Active listeners are intentional about the way that they signal their reception and understanding. They let you know that they agree, or at least empathize with you, or at the very least have heard you. They get what you're saying. They get you. They see you. We are justifiably annoyed when it becomes apparent that the other person is not listening, just biding their time.

During social gatherings at the college where I taught, the president sometimes approached me and inquired after myself or my family. Thinking the question was sincere, I would respond. But before I'd barely begun, he had moved on to another person. Not nice. Perhaps I have done that myself. These days I try to be more careful when others are speaking to me.

All this talk about being seen reminds me of a Bible story. In Genesis 16, a young woman named Hagar is despised by her master's wife and made to flee into the wilderness. There she is alone and unwanted. Unseen. But God visits Hagar, and speaks with her. Then this: “She gave this name to the LORD who spoke to her: ‘You are the God who sees me’” (v. 13, Hebrew Elroi). Wow.

In the absence of a friend close by, there is One who sees you. I was reminded of this not so long ago while in a spiritual rough patch of sorts. I wallowed in some heavy disillusionment and doubt. In the midst of my wallowing, I spent a night at a cabin in the woods. Come morning, I was moved to turn and look out my window. Outside, a fox was picking its way through the trees, not far away. Quickly he was gone. In sending that fox, God spoke: I see you. What a gift.

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There is nothing quite like knowing that God has seen and spoken with you—through Scripture, an event, a trusted friend, perhaps an inward impression. In times like that we feel a special closeness to God. That is possible because, having once placed our faith in Christ, we began a relationship with God. Want closeness with God? Begin actively to listen for his voice. And call on him regularly. In fact, call him by name—Elroi. The God who sees you.

Peace to you,

Pastor C



January Birthdays

January 1 John Colley
 January 3 Nancy Little
 January 7 Maura Cleary
 January 16 Mike Patchen
 January 19 Bev Osterhout

January Anniversaries

January 24 Kathy & George Schuster

February Newsletter

Karla Toman

The February Newsletter will be due on Sunday, January 18th and will be emailed/mailed on Wednesday, January 28th. Thank you for submitting your articles in a timely manner.



Healing Prayer

Kathy Schuster



Anderson Family
 Doug Beck
 Kelly Bialy & Gerda Young
 Brett Campbell
 Carol
 Barbara Carr
 Don Colpitts & Suzie Brant
 Elinor Ciccone
 Pastor & LB Colton
 Mark Daniels
 Betty Decker
 Jacky & Bruce DeVoe
 Family & Friends of Bill Diffendorf
 Dillon
 Sara Whitney—Dorman
 Jason Dunkailo
 Paula & Fred Epply
 Jean Fairbairn
 Family of Grace Ferris
 Kenny Gill

Dan Grady
 Jackie Guillon
 Bob Heinle
 Roger Houghtalen
 Ron Jackson
 Kathy Karpiak
 Kim
 Beth Lewis
 June Lewis
 Candi Lynch
 Gary Marsh
 Elva & Jim Martin
 Phyllis Martin
 Mary & Ray
 Rosemary & Dick Mc Peak
 Doris McWenie
 Jill Miclon
 Betty Nocciolino
 Family of Jonathan Rouse
 Nancy Rychlewski

Kathy Schuster may be contacted for prayer requests by:

Mobile: 607.624-4035

Email: kschuster50@yahoo.com

Donnelly Food Pantry

Glenda Rowse



January food donations that have been requested for the Saber's Food Pantry are bread and cereal.



Annual Meeting and Reports

Karla Toman

Our 2025 Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 8th.

ALL reports are due to the church NO LATER THAN JANUARY 18th! There will be a draft available on Sunday, February 1st (one week before the annual meeting.) If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

There will be copies of previous reports available, if you need.

Kathy & George Schuster

B Snopek

June & Mick Stasukevich

Family & Friends of Joe Trapper

Marge Updyke

Marian & Dan Vergason

Mardelle Vest

Violet

Jeff Weyant

Rachel Weyant

Lynn Whitney

Loved ones in Nursing Homes:

Carolyn Groupe Nancy Little Ellen Mack

Chuck Little Jackie Heinle Doris McWenie

Christmas Eve Service

Carol Bell

Our Conklin Presbyterian Church Christmas Eve service will be on Wednesday, December 24th at 7 PM.



Stewardship Committee

JP Tschang

2025 November Financial Synopsis

November being a month of thanksgiving and counting our blessings has indeed proven true in terms of Offerings. Total Offerings for Nov 2025 were \$18,107 compared to monthly budgeted of \$17,610. However, monthly expenses of \$25.5k pushed the results of November into a deficit of \$7k.

Total Offerings to date were \$168.7k compared to 2024’s \$198.3k. YTD deficit of \$7.2k for 2025 has brought the net position of the church to a negative \$30k.

Bank balance is still comfortable at \$39k. We must prepare to spend a little extra on BAN properties with approximately \$2.2k to drain the pipes and a few thousand on appraisals to prepare for the sale.

Pledges for 2025 as at end of Nov totaled 28 pledges for \$98,482. A comparison of these 3 year’s pledges are:

	For 2024	For 2025	For 2026
No. of pledges given	46	37	28
Pledged amount	\$126,733	\$118,345	\$98,482
Average calculated pledge	\$2,755	\$3,198	\$3,517

Although each individual giving unit may be giving more or less than the average calculated pledge amount, the total pledges for 2026 show an increased average for which we are thankful. We continue to pray for faithful giving to support God’s work.

Comparison of prior years’ results are as follows (dollars rounded to nearest \$100):

Endowments

	2023	2024	2025
LPL and NCF	\$537,900	\$522,600	\$514,500

Endowment balances were \$512k in October and increased to \$514.5k at end of Nov 2025. At the beginning of 2025 we had \$508,630 in Endowments from which \$66,400 was withdrawn throughout the year for \$64k for General Fund and \$2,400 for mission payment to Miguel Angel Asturias School in Guatemala. Instead of ending November with \$442,300 balance in Endowments, we have \$514.5k! The stock market increase of 12% over the same period plus contributions of \$5k to the Endowment funds certainly assisted in this gain, praise God.

Balance Sheet

	2023	2024	2025
Tioga Checking balance	\$52,400	\$50,400	\$39,000
Unrestricted funds	\$1,400	(\$14,100)	(\$30,000)

Bank balance is comfortable at \$39k and net unrestricted fund balance stands at negative \$30k. November’s deficit of \$7k contributed to increasing the net deficit for the year.

Revenue and expenses

	November			YTD			BUDGET	
	2023	2024	2025	2023	2024	2025	YTD	Annual
Revenue	\$15,900	\$15,100	\$18,500	\$306,000	\$346,400	\$264,100	\$280,800	\$299,439
Expense	\$22,400	\$20,500	\$25,500	\$310,900	\$358,500	\$271,300	\$273,800	\$299,439
Net	(\$6,500)	(\$5,400)	(\$7,000)	(\$4,900)	(\$12,100)	(\$7,200)	\$7,000	0

E-Expenses were higher in November due to the payment of pass-through missions amounting to \$3.3k and \$2.4k for appraiser services. E-giving YTD totaled \$5,561.03, a decrease from 2024’s YTD of \$10,496.20 and 2023’s \$7,858.01.

January 2026 Calendar

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
28 9:45am Sunday School 11am Worship Svc	29 Ofc Closed	30 Ofc Closed 9am Exercise 6pm Scouts	31 Ofc Closed 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	Jan 1 Happy New Year Ofc Closed	2 Ofc Closed	3
4 9:45am Sunday School 11am Worship Svc	5 Ofc Closed	6 9am Ofc Open 9am Exercise 6pm Scouts	7 9am Ofc Open 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	8 9am Ofc Open 10am Exercise 7pm Cmte Mtgs	9 Ofc Closed	10
11 9:45am Sunday School 11am Worship Svc	12 Ofc Closed	13 9am Ofc Open 9am Exercise 6pm Scouts	14 9am Ofc Open 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	15 9am Ofc Open 10am Exercise 7pm Session	16 Ofc Closed	17
18 Annual Rpt Due VL Due 9:45am Sunday School 11am Worship Svc	19 Ofc Closed	20 9am Ofc Open 9am Exercise 6pm Scouts	21 9am Ofc Open 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	22 9am Ofc Open 10am Exercise	23 Ofc Closed	24
25 9:45am Sunday School 11am Worship Svc	26 Ofc Closed	27 9am Ofc Open 9am Exercise 11am Deacons 6pm Scouts	28 NL mailed/emailed 9am Ofc Open 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	29 9am Ofc Open 10am Exercise	30 Ofc Closed	31



We're on the Web!



Conklin Presbyterian Church
1175 Conklin Road
PO Box 151
Conklin, New York 13748

January 2026



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Christmas Eve Service
will be on
Wednesday, December 24th
7 PM*

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Sunday, February 8th.
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available on Sunday, February 1st.**