



The **MISSION** of the Presbytery of Northern NY is to **WITNESS**, with love, to Jesus Christ in word and deed.

The Presbytery is called to **INSPIRE and SUPPORT** the growth of leaders and congregations in their ministry and mission for Christ.

**CONNECTED** as one body, we are...

35 Congregations,

a New Worshipping Community

& Ministries In the North Country

...**WITNESSING FAITHFULLY** throughout

the North Country.

“And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your **old men** will **dream dreams**, your young **men** will see visions.  
-Joel 2:28

In 2020, the presbytery committed itself to raising monies over and above Per Capita to “Sustain the Dream” of having a part-time Resource Presbyter, a position designed to provide support and guidance for all of our church leaders and congregations.

Do you remember that old nursery rhyme...



*Here is the church,  
and here is the steeple  
Open the doors and  
see all the people.  
Here is the choir  
singing up the stairs,  
And here is the pastor  
saying our prayers.*

The **COVID 19 pandemic** has led us to search for the **meaning of church** in our communities, and to provide alternative worship structures throughout our region.

This we know.

**The church is not a nursery rhyme** and it is also not merely a building, and it is not a clubhouse. It is an active force in our daily lives which gives Christians support, guidance, spiritual growth and healing. And it is led by pastors and lay people, by deacons, elders, pulpit supply, Sunday school teachers, and congregational members.

Most importantly, **we are not alone.**



We are part of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. and as such, we receive guidance, support and direction from this body to provide the same to our local communities through direct support and help from presbyteries.

**The primary role of the Resource Presbyter has been to support churches, pastors, and leaders** as they manage transitions and/or work towards revitalization, thus helping them to thrive wherever God has planted them. This has helped to build up the presbytery, improve communication, support seminary students, and keep us connected to the abundant resources available to us within and beyond the presbytery.



*“My passion is to support pastors and church leaders as they facilitate pathways for revitalization and renewal. By fostering innovation and connecting leaders to the right resources, I believe churches can pivot and move forward as gospel communities that make a tangible difference in our world today.”*

*-Rev David Bennett*

Funding to sustain the dream of having our Resource Presbyter in place to support our congregations with the tools and talents the churches of NNY requires all of our participation.

Your congregation's financial commitment through



**Per Capita** is shared with two councils that support our presbytery: The Synod of the Northeast and the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA), with the

remainder to pay for the bare bones ecclesiastical structure of the presbytery [Stated Clerk, Bookkeeper, etc.]

**Outside grants** used to fund our presbytery, but they are now few and far between, so we must look to our own resources. Responsible use of our small endowment along with gifts over and above Per Capita from churches and individuals are the primary ways we believe can sustain the dream.

**DREAM BIG. WORK HARD.  
TRUST GOD.**

**The funding gap for 2021 is \$75k, \$30k of which comes from Trustee managed endowment funds, which leaves \$45k from individuals and congregations to sustain the dream.**

We believe that participation in any way, big or small, will contribute significantly to the goal of sustaining the dream.



This is where **we need your help!**

During our initial campaign we developed some suggested ways to respond:

1: Build it into your **annual church budget**, or...

2: Take a **special offering** one or more Sundays a year with the proceeds going to support the presbytery and its mission, or....

3: Hold a **fundraising event** – like a dinner, concert, bake sale, rummage sale, service auction, or more - with proceeds of the event



going to the Presbytery. You might even wish to collaborate with other Presbyterian churches to host a special fundraiser – dream big together, or....

4: We also envision that there may be **individuals who feel specially called to make a personal pledge** to the Presbytery to sustain the dream.

**In 2020, over \$30k was pledged by 22 congregations and individuals. THANK YOU to all who participated!**

We still have a way to go. And we also realize that this year is especially hard on congregations, and some may not be able to fulfill their pledge.

We really need as many as possible to make this dream a reality.

- † Please consider the mission of the presbytery as a vital and important mission to build the church in our area.
- † Please consider the work that has been done by our Resource Presbyter as churches has encountered many unique circumstances this year.
- † And please consider the important value of having someone capable of bringing the voices from all corners of our presbytery into the same room for our meetings through our multi- site hosting capabilities!

These vital initiatives have only come with the gift of the presbytery. We need your support to continue, so the Pentecost dream 2000 years ago continues to bless the people in our part of God's creation.

To learn more, visit [www.presbyteryofnny.org](http://www.presbyteryofnny.org) where there are links to the YouTube Video and campaign documents. Or, reach out to any member of the Coordinating Council or to David Bennett at [nnypresbytery@gmail.com](mailto:nnypresbytery@gmail.com) so he can connect you to the best person and/or information.