

*Puckety Presbyterian Church*  
1009 Puckety Church Road  
Lower Burrell, PA 15068

*(Return Service Requested)*

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**REMINDER:**

Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.  
Zoom/video at [pucketychurch.org](http://pucketychurch.org)



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# *Puckety Church*

*We are determined to be  
the heart, voice, and  
hands of God, making a  
lasting difference in your  
life, our community, and  
the world!*

*Post-Scripts*  
a monthly publication



## Puckety Presbyterian Church

*At Puckety we personally and collectively Honor God, Grow in Faith,  
and Improve our Community and World.*

**June 2023**

# Post-Scripts

a monthly publication

### Pastor's Corner

During the tail end of my pilgrimage in Israel, on one of our last days in the “Old City” of Jerusalem, our tour guide, Hussam, took us to the place traditionally claimed to be built on the remains of the “Upper Room” where Christ took his disciples for the Passover before his arrest and crucifixion. Hussam explained “a LOT happened in this room!” ... including not only the institution of the Lord’s Supper, but also the waiting for the promised Spirit and finally Pentecost. As we read Scripture and thought about the importance of waiting on God’s Spirit and then LIVING by the power provided by the Spirit, he took his laser pointer and showed us one of the oldest parts of the room. It was a column with a strange sculpture at its head.

We could tell they were birds, but he had to tell us it was a pelican, with explanation that a mother pelican will feed its young with food directly from its mouth, and when no food can be found, it will even ‘choke up’

its own blood to give them sustenance. Do you see where I’m going here – why the Christian sculptor added it to the room? It was an early symbol of Christ taking care of his church – nourishing them through his sacrifice, love and blood – not the sacramental overtones in the same place where the Lord’s Supper was inaugurated. Similar imagery – of hens, geese and doves stirs our minds to think of the Holy Spirit – our Paraclete – “Counselor, Guide, Comforter” – sustaining us. As you receive this it will be right between Pentecost Sunday and Trinity Sunday ... How fitting. God the Father is often called the Creator. God the Son is hailed as the Redeemer. The Spirit, with his task of caring and empowering the disciples of Christ, is named the Sustainer ...



~ Pastor Brian ~

**Remember to check Puckety's website and social media!**

Website: [www.pucketychurch.org](http://www.pucketychurch.org) Like and Follow on Facebook: Puckety Presbyterian Church  
Follow us on Instagram: Puckety Church Follow us on Twitter: @churchpuckety

## Pentecost

If you go back and read the Old Testament, you will discover that Pentecost was one of the Jewish feast days. Only they didn't call it Pentecost. That's the Greek name. The Jews called it the Feast of Harvest or the *Feast of Weeks*. It was one of the festivals the Jewish pilgrims ascended to Jerusalem for – with special reference to the giving of the Law to Moses on Sinai (after 50 days there – “Pente” = 50) ... Here's the way they figured out the date of Pentecost. According to the Old Testament, you would start from the celebration of *Firstfruits* (beginning of barley harvest), and starting with that day, you would count off 50 days. The fiftieth day would be the Day of Pentecost. Since it was 50 days after *Firstfruits*, and since 50 days equals seven weeks, it became a "week of weeks" (7x7) later. Therefore, they called it the Feast of Weeks. How interesting that 7x7 (the perfect number multiplied by itself) came to represent the “fullness of time” when the promised Holy Spirit would come and fill the Church. Just as the houses were “full of grain” at the harvest, the story in *Acts 2* says the Holy Spirit “filled the whole house” where the disciples were. And hearkening back to how God “sent down” his Law to his people at Sinai, in *Acts 2* (with the tongues of fire recalling the fire and smoke on the mountain), we see God giving his people a “new” law, the law of the Spirit (Romans 8), or the power by which to live in right relationship with him. Happy Pentecost.



There are different ways to give to the mission of the church. If you choose to give electronically, click the button on our website or you can also make it even easier by using the Vanco Faith App! (*search Vanco App in the App Store or Google Play*). When you search for our church, put in "Puckety Presbyterian Church" For more information on how to use Vanco Faith click the link on [pucketychurch.org](http://pucketychurch.org). Thank you for your generosity!



Congratulations  
GRADUATES  
CLASS OF 2023

## Spotlight on our Graduates!

Notes of congratulations for our graduating seniors – *Aaron Mele, Matthew Pranievicz, and Kwade Kirchartz*. We also congratulate our college graduates: *Megan Benish and Grace Knopfel*. Well done all of you, and God bless in your future pursuits!!



We will be meeting on June 11th after worship in the conference room to catch up and work on our projects. All are welcome regardless of experience. Hopefully we are all still working on our lap blankets for Hospice to help those who need comfort. If you only know one stitch this is still the place for you! We don't judge when you can't respond to a question because you are counting, we promise. See Wiebke with any questions.

**Everyone:** This is an invitation for your congregation to join together in a shared worship service and picnic beginning at 10:00 a.m. on July 16, 2023 as the Calvin Hays Log Chapel at Pine Springs Camp is rededicated. Come prepared to worship God and fellowship with one another. Please let us know how many to expect by emailing or calling the Presbytery office - [secretary@redstonepresbytery.org](mailto:secretary@redstonepresbytery.org) - 724.837.6737.



- 04 Jennifer McKay
- 11 Mira Whalen
- 18 Maria Schafer
- 25 Sophia Earhart

## Your Deacons:

- Sandra Ankney
- Pat Fish
- John McAllister
- Cecil McCutcheon
- Brandy Roland
- Mira Whalen
- Kim Soulcheck
- Sandy Ankney
- Fran Kapelewski
- Nita Serene
- Brenda McAllister
- Rodney Schafer

## Corporate Officers:

- President:** Jennifer McKay
- Vice-Pres.:** Cliff McKay, Sr.
- Secretary:** Debra Artman
- Treasurer:** Jolene Kostelansky

**Joint Board Meeting Tuesday, August 8th - Inside the fence - the inner yard of the Manse - All are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share. [Feel free to bring your own folding chair for your comfort] 5:40 PM – Gather & 6:00 PM - Meeting start time!!**

## Your Session:

- Deb Artman – Clerk
- Jolene Kostelansky
- Jennifer McKay
- Cliff McKay
- Kelly Kapelewski
- Marilyn Crumley
- Helen Crissman
- Maria Schafer
- Sandy Schafer



## Offering counters:

- 6/4: Deb Artman & Janet Karan
- 6/11: Chuck & Judy West
- 6/18: Helen Crissman & Marilyn Crumley
- 6/25: Deb Artman & Janet Karan

## PRAYER REQUESTS!

If you are not on our prayer chain, please consider signing up for it. It only takes a minute to lift someone who may need your prayers! Call or email the office. We have an email prayer chain as well as a phone call prayer chain.

**ATTENTION ALL SESSION MEMBERS, DEACONS, AND TEAM LEADERS:**



Please be sure to check your mail slots in the metal cabinet at the top of the stairs often. You may receive correspondence or announcements that need your attention in a timely manner!

### Pastor:

Reverend Brian Kilbert

### Administrative Secretary:

Kelly Kapelewski

### Bookkeeper:

Debra Artman

### Choir Director:

Lorraine Menk

### Organist/Pianist:

Jesse Oddis

### Housekeeper:

Irene Nelson

### Financial Secretary:

Judy West

**THE DEACONS ARE ACCEPTING DONATIONS OF ANY NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS FOR THE DEACON'S PANTRY. PLACE YOUR ITEMS OUTSIDE THE METAL CABINET BESIDE THE LIBRARY DOOR. THANK YOU!**

**Memorial Banners** Please take a moment to notice the 2 new banners from Irene Nelson *"His Love Endures Forever"* in honor of her aunt Laura Such, *who just turned 103 on May 25<sup>th</sup>* (Happy Birthday, Laura) and the other *"Let Everything That Has Breath Praise The Lord"* is from Sue Close in honor of Jesus Christ and Rev. Gary Close.



The Bible readings are from  
"Book of Common Worship"

**June 4:**

Genesis 1:1-2:4a  
Psalm 8:2  
2Cor 13:11-13  
Matthew 28:16-20

**June 11:**

Genesis 12:1-9  
Psalm 33:1-12  
Romans 4:13-25  
Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

**June 18:**

Genesis 18:1-15  
Psalm 116: 1-2, 12-19  
Romans 5:1-8  
Matthew 9:35-10:8

**June 25:**

Genesis 21:8-21  
Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17  
Romans 6:1b-11  
Matthew 10:24-39

**SUMMER SCHEDULE FOR  
CHILDREN'S CHURCH!**

June 18, 2023

July 9, 2023

July 23, 2023

August 13, 2023

August 27, 2023

We will start back to every Sunday  
starting on September 10!



**THREE IN ONE**



- 1 Michelle Gordon
- 3 Ryan Smith
- 4 Lorraine Menk
- Alice Knopfel
- 5 Marti Rugh
- 13 Cliff McKay, Jr.
- Beverly Becker
- Vicky Eckman
- 14 Rebecca Fisher
- 16 Patty Jones
- 17 Janet Karan
- 19 Jack Kirchartz
- 20 Dean Kunkle
- Ben Szich
- 21 Caryn Nelson
- 24 Margie Hazlett
- 25 Lisa Sennett
- 27 Jenny Adams



Take control of your money with *Financial Peace University*! This nine-week class uses biblical wisdom and common sense to help you tackle budgeting, pay off debt, and make your money work for you! You can sign up for this class at [fpu.com/1162776](http://fpu.com/1162776). Class starts **Thursday, July 6, 2023**.

## *A Devotional For You* – Read Acts 2:42-44, 47, Acts 4:29-31 & Acts 8:1

We've been looking at the "Songs of Ascent" (Pilgrim Psalms) on Sundays, and for *Pentecost Sunday* we looked at Ps. 133. I wanted to share something I didn't have time to that morning. One of my all-time favorite books is Dietrich Bonhoeffer's *Life Together* – relatively small but Eugene Peterson says it is probably "the best book written in the last 100 years on the meaning of living together as a family of faith." It begins with the words of the psalm: "Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to live together in unity" (NKJV). This text was with Bonhoeffer all his life, particularly during the time of Nazi Germany. At the end of our pilgrimage in Israel, we visited the Holocaust Museum in Jerusalem - *Yad Vashem*. It was emotionally overwhelming ... (We weren't permitted to take photos and, honestly, I wouldn't want to – but you can get a sense by Googling it). It helped me understand how as a German Christian, Bonhoeffer was not only moved himself to act, but moved to inspire others to do the same. During the Nazi years he led a fugitive "underground" community of seminarians, living with them in a daily quest to discover for themselves the meaning of being a family of faith in Christ and training them to be leaders of the church and witnesses to the world. It feels to me VERY much what it was like for the early Church – after its birth on Pentecost and the indwelling of the Spirit. During the last years of the Third Reich, he was imprisoned by Adolf Hitler. But even the prison walls did not separate him from his brothers and sisters in Christ. He prayed for them and wrote letters to them (*making me think of the times Peter was imprisoned in Acts, and then later Paul, some of whose epistles were written from prison as well*).

In her biography of Bonhoeffer, Mary Bosenquet writes the following: "The time was April 9<sup>th</sup>, 1945. The prison doctor at Flossenburg wrote this report: 'On the morning of the day (of execution) ... the prisoners were led out of their cells and the verdicts read to them ... I saw Pastor Bonhoeffer, still in his prison clothes, kneeling in fervent prayer to the Lord his God. The devotion and conviction of being heard that I saw in the prayer of this intensely captivating man, moved me to the depths.' So the morning came. The prisoners were ordered to strip ... Naked under the scaffold in the sweet spring woods, Bonhoeffer knelt for the last time to pray. Five minutes later, his life was ended. Three weeks later Hitler committed suicide. In another month, the Third Reich had fallen."

Even as his life had been an exposition of v. 1 of Ps. 133, his death was an exposition of the last line: "God commands his blessing, ordains eternal life." So, how fitting that during his memorial service they played the hymn, For All the Saints, which has this as the 4th verse: "O blest communion, fellowship divine! We feebly struggle, they in glory shine; yet all are one in Thee, for all are Thine: Alleluia! Alleluia!"

With the fiery indwelling of the Holy Spirit, for the sake of the true Church's witness and fellowship, in such a way, one man showed in his life and death, even as we can in the community we live in – the perennial truth of Psalm 133 – the blessing of God "flowing down" over us – "how wonderful, how beautiful, when brothers and sisters dwell together in unity. That's where God commands his blessing, ordains eternal life."  
- Pastor Brian

Many have become a regular part of the worshipping community of Puckety Church over the last year. Some are exploring membership – If you are interested in "joining" the congregation of Puckety Church, contact Pastor Brian or contact the Church Office at 724-339-1323 for more information. Pastor Brian is planning another *Discipleship Essentials* class starting August 9<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm - for both new members **and** others who simply want a better grasp of some of the essentials of our faith and Christian heritage.





Do you love baby clothes? Could you teach Marie Kondo something about how to fold clothes for optimal storage? Do you want to do more to help others in our community? The TryLife Center here in Lower Burrell and the Outreach Committee have an opportunity for you! Small groups have been going to TryLife on the second Tuesday of the month and we have been sorting clothes and helping to organize them so the clients can easily find the clothing and supplies they need for their babies. We arrive at 5 pm and

instructions are given and then the work begins. The work is done mostly standing, but chairs are available and our groups work as teams to help each other out with getting the totes back and forth. These tasks seem so small but make a huge impact on how the clothes are presented to the clients, lending a dignity to their situations. For those that don't know TryLife Center is a faith based, life-affirming pregnancy and family resource center. They help families succeed by supporting and empowering parents through free and ongoing education, counseling, material assistance and referrals through their Parent & Baby Program. They also offer free pregnancy testing, limited OB ultrasounds, STD/STI screening and treatment and HIV/Hep-C screening in house or with their mobile medical unit. In June the volunteers signed up for Tuesday the 13th are, Beth Dober, Mick Dober, Sophia Earhart, Mira Whalen and Sandra Ankney. If you would like to join them that night or in any of the future months please let Wiebke or Pastor Brian know and we will get you signed up.



**RightNow!** - Puckety Church has purchased a great resource to invest in all of you! We now have unlimited access to *RightNow Media*—the world's largest streaming library of video Bible study resources (the “Netflix of video Bible studies”). We believe that RightNow Media is a tool that can help you live out your faith in every area of your life—at home, small groups & in your community (24/7 access). We've started to use this in our Children's Ministry too, so make sure you tell your families! For *both* our members **and** friends of the congregation, *RightNow Media* has a free app that's available on all major streaming devices so you and your family can access content anywhere, anytime. To get started, simply use the QR code below, create your free account, and start browsing more than 20,000 inspiring videos. Please help us spread this news to *everyone*. We pray that RightNow Media will be a blessing to you and your family!

<https://app.rightnowmedia.org/join/pucketychurch>



Or you can text the code **PUCKETYCHURCH** to the number 49775 and you will receive a text back, welcoming you to RightNow Media and providing you with the invite link to register.

*Ladies Luncheon will be suspended for the summer months and will recommence in September. Have fun with your friends and family this summer. Woohoo! See you in September. [Hey, isn't that a song?]*



We want to encourage ALL VBS volunteers (Directors, Station Leaders, Crew Leaders, Decorating Team, Promotion managers, support volunteers – everybody involved before, during and after) to join us for our 10 AM Worship on **Sunday, June 18<sup>th</sup>**, because there will be a Dedication of our VBS week to the Lord, with a time of prayer for the whole VBS team. Please spread the word, mark your calendars, and help us start the week off right. It's only a couple weeks away, so if you haven't told the relevant people in your family or your neighboring families, please remind them to pre-register THIS WEEK. Space is limited (especially for the Preschool). Please be praying for the children and their families. And there's still ways for you to help! We need a couple more crew leaders. Contact Emilie Greiner or Erika Manges to inquire. We need help on our decorating day – *Sunday June 11<sup>th</sup>* – after worship. And we will need extra help cleaning up on Sunday June 25<sup>th</sup> (after the picnic), and on Monday June 26<sup>th</sup> (call the office – 724-799-3323 – and let us know if you can help in the morning from 10am to Noon or in the evening from 6:30 to 8:30 PM).

What is up with that iPad in the pew where Deb Artman is sitting? Well, the AV team is trying to optimize how we use technology and our volunteers! If you have ever watched our worship service via Zoom or on Facebook you may have wanted a better look at the children's sermon, praise band or choir. Using the iPad allows the AV team to have a stable camera pointed at that area of the sanctuary. With some mouse magic in the AV room we can flip from highlighting the pulpit or the wider view of the front of the altar. Using this device also means the sound crew doesn't have to run upfront with their personal cell phones to get a camera on that activity. We have also replaced Pastor Brian's personal laptop with a donated laptop that can stay on the pulpit for all services and guest ministers. How you can continue to help us? So glad you asked! Our sound crew would really appreciate adding 2-3 more volunteers to learn how to do the sound board. By using the iPad the sound volunteers are really a behind the scenes volunteer option. If you are at all curious about the sound board please let Wiebke or Nate Manges know and we can get a visit to the booth arranged.





## Youth Group

What a great year we've had! We ended the school year with an outing to Zone 28 (laser tag and arcade fun) on May 14<sup>th</sup>. We had over 30 meetings this year since September, with "veteran" kids from last year and new kids joining throughout this year (especially starting in January). At our peak we had 17 separate kids active, and our average for the year was 12 for our regular Sunday nights. We plan to have a midsummer pool party in July. Please be praying for the developing faith of our students (including in the "off" summer months), as well as their invitational witness to other students to join us next year. And I want to give a big "Thank you" to all our wonderful youth leaders and volunteers! We couldn't do this without you, so God bless you!





Be on the lookout for more exciting adventures to come!! We'll be having a pool party this summer and hopefully another outing before our yearly bonfire in September!

## *Let's do it AGAIN!*

Since the first one was such a *success*, Puckety Church plans to make our "**Open Mic Night**" a quarterly thing! – the next OMN is **Saturday July 22nd** - 6:30 to 8 PM.

*Very informal* - the **WHOLE** community is invited to come and play/perform/sing. Help us spread the word! Free refreshments. We'd love your participation. To help organize or for more information, please call Terry Sprinkle: 919-920-4986.



**ALWAYS NICE TO HEAR SOME OF OUR MEN SERENADE OUR LADIES FOR MOTHER'S DAY!!**

# JUNE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>28</b> 10:00am Worship 4:00pm Johnston Birthday Party	<b>29</b> Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	<b>30</b> 5:30pm Girl Scouts 46799 8:00pm N.A. meeting	<b>31</b> FAITH HALL FLOOR REPLACEMENT PROJECT BEGINS	<b>1</b> FLOOR PROJECT - FAITH HALL 6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal	<b>2</b> FLOOR PROJECT - FAITH HALL OFFICE CLOSED	<b>3</b> FLOOR PROJECT - FAITH HALL
<b>4</b>  FLOOR PROJECT - FAITH HALL 10:00am Worship	<b>5</b> FLOOR PROJECT - FAITH HALL 10:00am Men's Group Meeting 10:30am Card Ministry 6:00pm Upkeep Team Meeting	<b>6</b> FLOOR PROJECT - FAITH HALL 6:00pm Girl Scouts 20130 Meeting 6:30pm Outreach Team Meeting	<b>7</b> FLOOR PROJECT - FAITH HALL	<b>8</b> FLOOR PROJECT - FAITH HALL	<b>9</b> FLOOR PROJECT - FAITH HALL OFFICE CLOSED	<b>10</b> Scheftic Graduation Party
<b>11</b> 10:00am Worship 10:30am Arb 90th Birthday Party 11:00am Crafternoon 11:00am VBS Decorating	<b>12</b> Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group Meeting 5:30pm MS Group Meeting 6:00pm ALICE Training 6:30pm Seneca Service Unit Leader Meeting	<b>13</b> 1:00pm Bracken Small Group 5:00pm Try-Life Outreach 5:30pm Girl Scouts 46799 6:30pm Session Meeting 8:00pm N.A. meeting	<b>14</b> Meals on Wheels  Flag Day	<b>15</b> 6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal	<b>16</b> Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> 10:00am Worship  Happy Father's Day	<b>19</b> Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group Meeting  Vacation Bible School	<b>20</b>  VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL	<b>21</b> First Day of Summer  Meals on Wheels VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL	<b>22</b>  VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL	<b>23</b> Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED  VBS	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> 10:00am Worship 11:00am VBS Celebration Picnic  VBS Celebration Picnic	<b>26</b> Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group Meeting	<b>27</b> 1:00pm Bracken Small Group 8:00pm N.A. meeting	<b>28</b> Meals on Wheels	<b>29</b> 6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal	<b>30</b> Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	<b>1</b>

