

Puckety Presbyterian Church

1009 Puckety Church Road
Lower Burrell, PA 15068

(Return Service Requested)

Last Day For:

Post Scripts Information:

Third Friday of the month.

Bulletin Information:

The Tuesday before the Sunday the
article is to be announced

REMINDER:

Worship: 10:00 a.m.

Zoom/video at pucketychurch.org



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.*

February 2022

Post-Scripts
a monthly publication

Pastor's Corner

Something MONUMENTAL is coming! Care to take a guess? ... The theme for our 2022 Vacation Bible School is Group's *Monumental: Celebrating God's Greatness*. And I'm already getting excited. Our VBS week will be **June 20-24th** (in the evening), so start spreading the word to your families, neighbors and friends. You might think "that's months away," but we need loads of help to start getting ready. I heard so many people last year say things like "Are you doing VBS this year?" (*before summer*), and lots of our members afterward saying, "Oh, I wish we could have done VBS!" ... Well, it's happening, and now we need *everyone's* help because it's going to take a team of 50+ people to do it well. This is a critical way to reach out to our community, not only in "regular" years, but *especially right now* when so many have become isolated and disconnected from community and faith life. This is an opportunity we cannot afford to let slip by. Please start praying: **1)** for the hearts of the children & families in our community to be prepared by God to come and encounter Christ, **2)** for how you can help promote the event and invite families, **3)** for how you can participate in this collective work of the

many-membered body of Christ – perhaps as a *crew leader* to get to know the kids and guide them through their stations? Or as someone on the *construction or decorating teams*? There are dozens of spots with a variety of ways for us to fit into place. Perhaps it's impossible to do other roles, but you can donate needed items or contribute toward the cost of supplies. Don't wait for a call from the Discipleship Team, listen to the Spirit's voice and discern what specific way God is leading you to help. Let's celebrate God's greatness so that the whole community discovers it for themselves! *Soli Deo Gloria*.
~ Pastor Brian



If you are a member of the choir, praise team or help with the readings of worship please make sure you have turned in a signed broadcast release form. Kelly has them in the office. This form will allow us to broadcast your picture and voice over Zoom and Facebook.

Remember to check Puckety's website and social media!

Website: www.pucketychurch.org

Like and Follow on Facebook: Puckety Presbyterian Church

Follow us on Instagram: Puckety Church

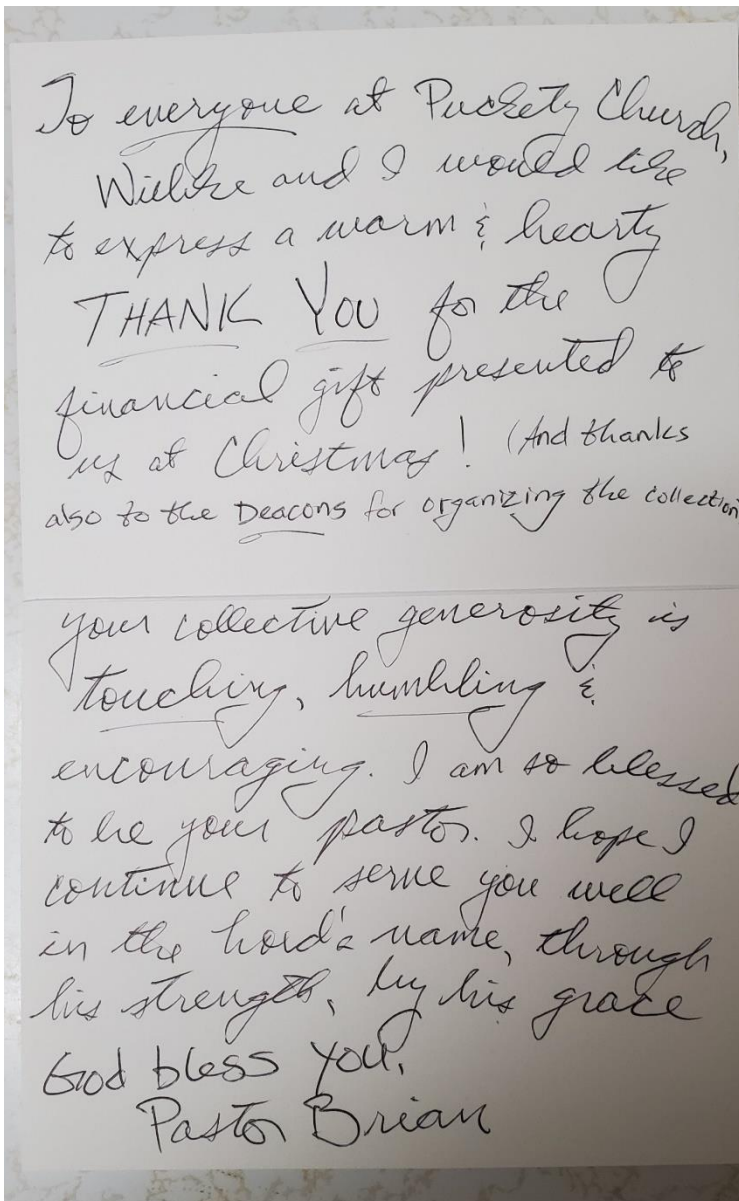
Follow us on Twitter: @churchpuckety

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.

Thank you for your generosity!



From the Hearts and Hands of Session

Here are some snapshots from our January meeting:

- We discussed the **AED's** (defibrillators) now installed in both buildings and encouraged to increase awareness that any adult can use them (no training required), but also thought a visual demonstration may add to people's confidence level – so we have scheduled a demo for the **coffee hour after worship** on **Sun. Feb. 13th** and encourage everyone to come not just for fellowship but for the presenter (Todd Johnston) who has graciously agreed to come.
- Amidst the annual "housekeeping" items such as the annual statistical report, audit committee, annual reports, we were reminded (and pass this on) – how blessed Puckety Church is – both in terms of God's physical provision for our various ministries, and in the spiritual gifts manifested in those who serve on our committees and teams. If you look closely, you can see the *holy hidden in the ordinary*.
- The Outreach Team reminds everyone of the **School Appreciation Bag Project** – items needed are in easy tear-away strips on hallway bulletin board. Collecting through February and March. We invite you to be a part of this affirmation of our schools' staff, and pray for them – join us for our post-worship **prayer-walking** the 3rd Sunday of each month (11:15 AM).
- The **Upkeep Team** commented on both ongoing projects (like the exterior and interior lighting we're already seeing the benefit of) and future projects (like addressing the condition of the parking lot).

- Jamie Kmett gave his first quarterly report as our **Christian Education Coordinator**. He needs more of the congregational surveys completed/submitted – so we encourage all our members to do so by mid Feb.



- 06 Vince Appleman
- 13 Jennifer McKay
- 20 Mira Whalen
- 27 Maria Schafer

Your Deacons:

- Mick Dober
- Pat Fish
- Traci Kirchartz
- Cecil McCutcheon
- Brandy Roland
- Maria Schafer
- Kim Soulcheck
- Jean Welte
- Fran Kapelewski
- Nita Serene
- Brenda McAllister
- Rodney Schafer

Corporate Officers:

- President:** Matt Wehrle
- Vice-Pres.:** Jennifer McKay
- Secretary:** Debra Artman
- Treasurer:** Chuck West



Your Session:
 Deb Artman – Clerk
 Chari Burtner
 Charlene McKay
 Jennifer McKay
 Matt Wehrle
 Chuck West
 Kelly Kapelewski
 Irene Nelson



Pastor:

Reverend Brian Kilbert

Offering counters:

- 2/6: Helen Crissman & Marilyn Crumley
- 2/13: Janet Karan & Deb Artman
- 2/20: Chuck & Judy West
- 2/27: Jolene Kostelansky, Sophia Earhart and Matt Wehrle

Administrative Secretary:

Kelly Kapelewski

Bookkeeper:

Debra Artman

Choir Director:

Lorraine Menk

Organist/Pianist:

Sue Close

Housekeeper:

Irene Nelson

Financial Secretary:

Judy West

Christian Ed:

Jamie Kmett

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.

We want you to be aware that WPXI and Severe Weather Team 11 will be your go-to source for cancellations due to inclement weather. We encourage you to watch Channel 11 Morning News or follow WPXI Sunday morning before you would head out for Worship.



Ladies Night Out! Unity Community Church in Plum is hosting a Just for Women evening full of laughter, learning, stories and music. The speaker is Melissa Spoelstra, an author and Bible Teacher. The women's Bible Study completed a study written by Spoelstra in 2021. Comedy is by Kristin Weber and Music by Mia Koehne. Tickets are \$25, \$20 if we book a group of 10 women. Date is Sunday March 13th with doors opening at 4:30 PM. Please let Wiebke know at 724-799-3323 or veesb@yahoo.com if you would like to purchase a ticket. Car pooling will be offered if possible.



The Bible readings are from "Book of Common Worship"

February 6:

Isaiah 6:1-8
Psalm 138
1 Cor 15:1-11
Luke 5:1-11

February 13:

Jer 17:5-10
Psalm 1
1 Cor 15:12-20
Luke 6:17-26

February 20:

Genesis 45:3-11, 15
Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40
1 Cor 15:35-38, 42-50
Luke 6:27-38

February 27:

Ex 34:29-35
Psalm 99
2 Cor 3:12-4:2
Luke 9:28-36



- 3 Dylan Meyers
- 5 Wiebke Kilbert
- 7 Joshua Dober
Kirk Orr
- 9 Jodi Piernik
Darlene Miller
- 10 Rodney Schafer
- 15 Mark Nelson
- 18 Joshua Johnston
Ron Kapustik
- 19 Karen David
- 24 A. Jean Morrow
Vicky Baker
- 26 James Heasley
- 27 Christina Logan
- 28 Kristine Schafer

Crafternoon:

Back by request with a twist we are going to reboot our crafting group. We are going to meet on one Sunday a month after church and coffee fellowship. Our start date will be February 13th after the coffee fellowship in the church library. Any crafter is welcome to join as long as your craft travels. Per request Wiebke will do crocheting lessons for anyone who wants to learn or refresh their skills. We will start with a crocheted sampler scarf. To participate please bring with you 2 balls/skeins of #4 worsted weight acrylic yarn. They can be the same or two or more different colors. I would recommend staying with the same brand and type of yarn. You will also need a 6MM or a J-10 hook. Please let Wiebke know if you want to participate in the sampler scarf so I can have enough patterns printed for us.

Please reach out to Wiebke at 724-799-3323 with any questions.



A Devotional for You - Read Luke 5:1-11

So, the season of Lent starts *late* this year – *Ash Wednesday* isn't until March 2nd! Lent is a time filled with religious language, symbolism and terminology. It can be very foreign to someone not part of the “church culture.” This year, I'm going to try somehow to foster the vital disciplines of Lent (kind of our spiritual “essential nutrients”) without using too much religious jargon. To that end, let me share an excerpt (still very relevant today) from Eugene Peterson's book, *A Long Obedience In the Same Direction*: “People submerged in a culture swarming with malice feel as if they are drowning in it: they can trust nothing they hear, depend on no one they meet. There's a silver lining: such dissatisfaction with the world as it is is preparation for traveling in the way of Christian discipleship. The dissatisfaction, coupled with a longing for justice and truth, can set us on a pilgrim path of wholeness in God. A person has to be thoroughly disgusted with the way things are to find the motivation to set out on the Christian way. As long as we think the next election might eliminate crime and establish justice or another scientific breakthrough might save the environment or another pay raise [*or stimulus check*] might push us over the edge of anxiety into a life of tranquility, we are not likely to risk the arduous uncertainties of the life lived with Jesus” (p. 25, *italics mine*).

His point is that a person has to get fed up with the ways of the world before he or she acquires an appetite for the world of grace. I believe that's the purpose of all those “practices” of Lent: worship, prayer, silence, fasting, service. Let's just take fasting (because it's one lots of Protestants – like Presbyterians – are weary of). Fasting isn't about dieting or getting credit with God – it's a *spiritual detox*. Just like if I want to seriously decrease the amount of sugar and fat I eat, there's a significant amount of work that has to be done before my body can be aware of the harm of too much of those and the good of greens and complex carbs. Fasting is getting our spiritual metabolism back on track in the sense that we work to see how the “junk food” we put in our lives (aka *idols* and rationalized behaviors), make us sluggish spiritually, and get recalibrated back onto God, his purposes, his Kingdom. Sometimes the only way to do this is to be “all in,” the way Simon, Andrew, James and John, left their nets and boats and families – literally the text says they “left everything” and followed Jesus. So, don't see Lent as a formality or something routine. On the contrary, make the most of it as it's supposed to be – a “shock” to our system, to stimulate a new beginning, to get things started in the right direction again. This is another way to talk about “repentance” – it takes just a bit longer, but maybe it's more effective that way – because this kind of about-face, this kind of 180-turn-around, sets us on the way to traveling in the light. It is a rejection that is also an acceptance, a leaving that develops into an arriving, a “no” to the world that is a “yes” to God. So, I encourage you to prepare to observe a holy Lent, which serves to prepare us for a holy God. ~ Pastor Brian



Puckety Life Groups

We'd like to invite *everyone who is not currently in a small group* to join one, so if that applies to you, contact any of our Small Group leaders or the church office for more information. **Join us!**

† The **Monday Morning Men's Group** (10 AM) is facilitated by Mick Dober and Matt Wehrle – call Matt for more information (724-396-6775).

† The **Bracken Bible Study** group – facilitated by Donna Bracken (currently *1 Corinthians*) meets *the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays* of the month at 1 PM (*usually* in Conference Room).

† The **Daniel Plan** group is facilitated by Alice Knopfel – currently taking a break for - this group commonly connects fitness with faith. Please call Alice for more information about the next round: 412-400-9463.

† The **Women's Bible Study** – facilitated by Wiebke Kilbert – Sunday mornings *after worship* (11:20 AM) Currently studying C.S. Lewis' *The Screwtape Letters*. Any questions, call Wiebke – 724-799-3323

† The **Praise Team Life Group** – facilitated by Mick Dober (724-681-0941) – every other Wednesday (starting Sept 15th) at 6 PM in the sanctuary. We will look at the "the story behind the songs" we plan to sing. This is *open to anyone*; folks can choose if they'd like to stay and practice with us. The prayer & study portion will probably be 20 to 25 mins at the start of our time together.

† "**You'll Get Through This**" - **Hope & Help for Your Turbulent Times** (by Max Lucado) with video lessons & guides - facilitated by Maria Schafer (hosted at their home) - Day/time TBD. Open to new participants. Call 412-377-8113 to join or ask questions.

† The **Tightening our Testimony** group is facilitated by Rev. Brian Kilbert (724-678-6976) – starting in late February (TBA) – in Conference Room or Pastor's Study. The group is open to new participants. We will use some well-tested material (Becoming a Contagious Christian, etc.), use video clips and discussion to help us become more comfortable and competent in sharing our faith.

[**IMPORTANT NOTE** to all Life Group facilitators: Puckety's Discipleship team is considering an "all-church" curriculum for 2023 – one which all the small groups could do at the same time and have connection to our weekly worship. If you have recommendations for an "all-church" theme/curriculum, please contact Chari Burtner or Rev. Brian Kilbert.]



Puckety Youth Group

Here's a recap of the last 5 months ... Our first Youth Group meeting was on Sept. 19, 2021. This kickoff was chaotic and wonderful. Through the fall, attendance was sporadic, but even when there were few, we knew it was time well spent with the students! The core of the group is now in the age range of 11 to 16. We have met most Sundays since September. We enjoy once-a-month special events & outings (e.g., Church Bonfire & Halloween Costume Party in October, Turf Attack Nerf War venue in November, Christmas Party in December, Laser Tag at Zone 28 in January, and upcoming snowtubing and a trip to the James 5:16 gym in February), *but it's really about the*

opportunity for the students (from different school districts) to have a place to connect, slowly bond, be heard and have fun.

The program model has been loosely based on the kind employed by *Young Life*. The first two months (*Sept. & Oct.*) were focused on icebreaker activities, games and "get to know you" discussions to lay relationship groundwork. In November, we introduced topical discussions connected to Scripture. Finally, in December, we gave all the students copies of *Lifebooks* – books specifically designed for middle and high school youth with comments included throughout by students like them as handwritten marginal comments. The books include 3 parts: 1) an initial chapter summarizing God's story before Jesus shows up - including the mess we've made for ourselves, 2) the second part is the Gospel of Mark, including those marginal age-suited notes, and 3) the last part is the application section "What about you?" and invites them to respond to what Jesus wants to do in their life. We plan to use these on a semi-weekly basis in our discussions, aided by things like videos from "The Bible Project" and more. At the present time, we have a total of 12 students who attend semi-regularly – with an average of 6 to 7 on most Sunday evenings. Most of the students are not directly affiliated with our church membership. We have had *amazing volunteers* from the church – approximately 8 who have served on rotation as a "full evening"

volunteer (including participation, driving and chaperoning), along with another 6 auxiliary assistants to help with the major work of prep, clean-up and other support! Big thanks to: Rebecca Fisher, Chari Burtner, Mick & Beth Dober, Alice Knopf, Maria & Rodney Schafer, Matt Wehrle, Jolene Kostelansky, Nate Manges, Brenda McAllister, Lisa Wilson, Pamela & Caroline McAllister, Chuck & Judy West. I *also want to thank* those who have donated snacks & supplies! But we need more volunteers. Church experts have shown that the key to reaching kids today is a 3:1 ratio, *BUT* that no longer means 1 adult for every 3 kids ... It *now* means 3 adults invested in each student's life – caring about what's going on with them, listening, walking beside. Please help us in this, because it's a critical time for these young people, and we can play a vital part in God touching their lives and the fruit that is produced in the years to come. Thank you,

Rev. Brian Kilbert – Youth Group director

You're all dressed and ready to go to church and you get the call from a family member that someone that was with you at the family event last week just tested positive and it is recommended that everyone isolate until they know they are clear. No worries you think, I can catch worship via Zoom. Sunday morning you wake to snow piled up and you aren't sure you can safely get your car out of the driveway. Thank goodness, I can Zoom worship today and stay safe.

The loved one you take care of needs a little extra care this Sunday morning. You can't make it to church on time after all. Oh, but I can log in and see it on Facebook!


What if you couldn't? What if Zoom and Facebook aren't available? You could miss out on the conclusion of an excellent sermon series. You could not hear that important message or prayer request or update on the friend that shares your pew with you. You could become disconnected from your church family if Zoom and Facebook worship options are not available.

You have seen the requests for help in running the Zoom worship meeting in the bulletins, newsletters and heard it from the pulpit. If you are sitting in the pew you may even have thought, oh yes, this is important, someone should step up and do that for the people that can't come in to the building to worship with us. What if that person who couldn't come in to worship was you and no one stepped in to fill the need to run the Zoom meetings?







On average we have 5-6 Zoom users each Sunday, this includes via phone. In January with the weather and the spike of COVID numbers that number grew to 10-12 users. On avg. each "user" that logs in represents two or more people sharing the device. That means that on any given Sunday we have **10-20** church family members that are relying on Zoom/Facebook to worship with us, to stay connected to their church family. Many of you that have been comfortable worshiping in house have been transitioning to worshiping using Zoom since January 1st.

Running the Zoom meeting may seem daunting, but it is the easiest of the AV team tasks. If you can log in and JOIN the Zoom meeting you can "host" the meeting. The AV team has made strides to simplify the process and divide the different tasks up so everyone involved feels comfortable with what they are doing. In addition we have added a Zoom/Facebook specific computer in the back so volunteers no longer need to bring in their own equipment. We have even had Zoom hosts *host from home* while they had to quarantine! The AV team needs help to continue to provide this service to our family members, to you, to your loved ones. We need *at minimum* two more dedicated Zoom hosts to continue to provide Zoom and Facebook to our family. That would allow a rotation of once a month per host. Please, do not wait for someone else to step up to fill these spots. We need you. Please contact Pastor Brian or Wiebke if you are hearing that little voice pushing you to "think" about it.

February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 10:00 AM Worship 6:00 PM Youth Group	31 Meals on Wheels 10:00 AM Men's Group 6:00 PM Worship Team Meeting	1 2:15 PM Daniel Plan Group 6:00 PM Girl Scout Troop 20130 6:30 PM Christian Assembly of God 6:30 PM Outreach Team Meeting 8:00 PM N.A. meeting	2 Meals on Wheels 6:30 PM Deacons Meeting 7:00 PM Girl Scout Troop 26605	3 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	4 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	5
6 10:00 AM Worship 11:30 AM Women's Bible Study 6:00 PM Youth Group	7 Meals on Wheels 10:00 AM Men's Group 10:30 AM Card Ministry 5:30 PM Girl Scouts 46799 6:30 PM Upkeep Meeting	8 1:00 PM Bracken Bible Study 6:30 PM Christian Assembly of God 6:30 PM Session Meeting 8:00 PM N.A. meeting	9 Meals on Wheels 6:00 PM Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00 PM Girl Scout Troop 26605	10 5:00 PM Girl Scouts 26234 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	11 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	12
13 Youth Group Tubing 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM AED Demo 11:00 AM Coffee Hour 12:00 PM Crafternoon 	14  Meals on Wheels 10:00 AM Men's Group 5:30 PM MS Group Meeting 6:30 PM Seneca Service Unit Leader Meeting	15 2:15 PM Daniel Plan Group 6:00 PM Girl Scout Troop 20130 6:30 PM Christian Assembly of God 7:00 PM Sewing Guild 8:00 PM N.A. meeting	16 Meals on Wheels 7:00 PM Girl Scout Troop 26605	17 5:00 PM Girl Scouts 26234 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	18 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	19 Logan Birthday Party???
20 9:00 AM Kelly Baby Shower 10:00 AM Worship 11:30 AM Prayer Walk 11:30 AM Women's Bible Study 6:00 PM Youth Group	21  Meals on Wheels 10:00 AM Men's Group 5:30 PM Girl Scouts 46799 6:30 PM Discipleship Team Meeting	22 1:00 PM Bracken Bible Study 6:30 PM Christian Assembly of God 8:00 PM N.A. meeting	23 Meals on Wheels 6:00 PM Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00 PM Girl Scout Troop 26605	24 5:00 PM Girl Scouts 26234 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	25 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	26 11:00 AM Girl Scout Thinking Day
27  10:00 AM Worship 6:00 PM Youth Group	28 Meals on Wheels 10:00 AM Men's Group 6:00 PM Worship Team Meeting	1  6:00 PM Girl Scout Troop 20130 6:30 PM Christian Assembly of God 6:30 PM Outreach Team Meeting 8:00 PM N.A. meeting	2 Meals on Wheels	3	4 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	5

**Please consider donating any of the following for our Outreach Team's
Burrell School Staff Recognition Day:**

Burrell School Staff - Purchase List			
	Item Description	Total Amount needed	Suggested Package, Source, and Store
Feel free to shop other stores for equal or better deals!			
 1 package = 45 bottles	Bottles of Water	5 Packs	Sams Club - \$3.58 / Package
 1 Box = 36 packets	Water Flavor Packets	7 Boxes	Sams Club - Propel Variety Pack (36) - Electrolyte Water Beverage for \$6.98 / box
 1 package = 8 packs	Chewing Gum	30 Sleeves	Walmart - 8 packs of "Extra" gum in a sleeve; \$6.84 per sleeve; \$13.68 for 2 sleeves
	Life Savers	6 bags (3 mint 3 fruit)	Walmart - 50 oz. bags of Life Savers (Individually wrapped) for \$9.98 per bag
	Snickers Minis	4 bags	Walmart - 40 oz. bag of SNICKERS Minis Size for \$10.98 per bag
	Box of Cheez-Its Bags	5 boxes	Sams - Cheez-Its Box of 45 bags for \$12.78 per box
	Colored Ink Pens	10 packs	Walmart - Paper Mate InkJoy Gel Pens, Medium Point, 0.7 mm, Assorted Colors, 22 Count \$23.88 per pack
Donut Connection Gift Certificates	Gift Certificates	225	\$5 each
	Plastic Bags	250 BAGS	Walmart - Universal Plastic Shopping Bags 250 count - for \$22.06 per order