Puckety Presbyterian Church

1009 Puckety Church Road Lower Burrell, PA 15068

(Return Service Requested)

**REMINDER:** 

Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m. Zoom/video at pucketychurch.org



Puckety Church

a monthly publication

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

# Puckety Presbyterian Church

a monthly publication

At Puckety we personally and collectively Honor God, Grow in Faith, and Improve our Community and World. February 2023

### **Pastor's Corner**

I'm excited. One month into 2023 and there are several wonderful ways God is moving among us (and through us) at Puckety, particularly in the areas of Outreach and Discipleship. First, you probably have already heard about The Chosen churchwide study that several of our small groups are doing (using the hit TV series). One of the small groups is still open to new members for the study if you want to join in - just call me or the office. Also in terms of church-wide discipleship, you'll be hearing a lot this month about *RightNow Media* (including later in this newsletter) – make sure you take advantage of the gift from the church and help spread awareness of what a great resource it is! Finally, in terms of local mission (in addition to the good causes on our Outreach Bulletin board), a particular opportunity has arisen for all of us to live out our Church Vision to "be the heart, voice and hands of God making a lasting difference in ... the community." You may know that TryLife is one of our main local mission partners. They offer pregnancy, parenting and life skills support right here in Lower Burrell. We've usually

supported them primarily in financial terms. But now, we've organized a plan to help in a more personal way. They need groups to come in on a monthly basis to help clean and sort the toys & supplies used by the families/clients. They provide the simple briefing and the cleaning supplies. So, we stepped up in faith. We are asking the members of all our life groups (small group classes, Choir, Elders, Deacons, etc.) to be part of a team effort.

If 50 people sign up, each person would only have to do one event per year. There is a working schedule (now in on the bulletin board in the hallway) – we are scheduled to help the  $2^{nd}$  **Tuesday of each month** from 5:00 to 8:00 PM (shorter if teams have 6+ people) – And yes, I know that means Session would only be able to help once a year on their off-summer month (July), but it was the day that worked with TryLife's request and needs. - Please see the sign up in the hallway – if you're part of a Life Group or Church Board, you have been put down for a suggested date. If you see you've been scheduled but need to switch, feel free to do that. If you're not on the list yet, please feel free to add your name to one of the months which need more people. Don't worry about it being dark; we'll find a driving/carpool option if needed. TryLife does so much for our community, and they have blessed some of our own members in the past. This is a simple, practical and helpful way we can "make a lasting difference in the lives of our community." So, let's honor God, grow in faith, and improve our community and world while doing it. *Pastor Brian* 

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

Website: www.pucketychurch.orgLike and Follow on Facebook: Puckety Presbyterian ChurchFollow us on Instagram: Puckety ChurchFollow 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!



*Vacation Bible School* – Planning has begun! We have our Co-directors for our summer VBS (Emilie Greiner and Erika Manges – thank you both!), and we have chosen the curriculum and dates: we'll be hosting Group's *Stellar VBS* the week of *June 19-23<sup>rd</sup>*. Spread the news so families can *mark the calendars*! And please start praying now: 1) for God to work on the hearts of parents & children to be reached, 2) for our co-directors in their work (and being ready to help as a volunteer if invited), 3) for the planning and promotional stages, and 4) for the love of Jesus to be both the motive and the goal from beginning to end. Let's shine his light *near and FAR AWAY*!



We recently enjoyed a lovely time of fellowship thanking Barb Sprinkle for her time filling in as organist and welcoming Jesse Oddis as our new music specialist. It was also very nice to meet Jesse's wife, April, son, Lincoln, and his parents as well!

The Deacons would like to announce that Puckety Church was able to give 60 Try-Life Angels Christmas gifts this year and fill 9 Christmas food baskets that helped to feed 15 adults and 8 children!



- 05 Vince Appleman 12 Jennifer McKay
- 12 Jenniner McKay
- 19 Mira Whalen
- 22 Maria Schafer
- 26 Sophia Earhart

### **Your Session:**

Deb Artman – Clerk Jolene Kostelansky Chari Burtner Jennifer McKay Cliff McKay Chuck West Kelly Kapelewski Marilyn Crumley

#### 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!

### Your Deacons:

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

## **Corporate Officers:**

President: Jennifer McKay Vice-Pres.: Cliff McKay, Sr. Secretary: Debra Artman Treasurer: Chuck West

engagement

We are happy to announce the engagement of abby who oot

Zack Schafer and his fiancé Gabby who got engaged on Christmas Day!



**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

## **Offering counters:**

2/5: Helen Crissman &
Marilyn Crumley
2/12: Deb Artman &
Janet Karan
2/19: Chuck & Judy West
2/26: Jolene Kostelansky,
Sophia Earhart and Matt Wehrle

**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.

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!

The Crafternoon group will be meeting on Sunday the 12th after the Soup & Salad Luncheon. This group is open to all fiber arts. Join us to work on your current project or a lap blanket for our ongoing lap blanket ministry.



*The Bible readings are from "Book of Common Worship"* 

### February 5:

Isaiah 58?1-9a Psalm 112:1-9 1 Cor 2:1-12 Matthew 5:13-20

### February 12:

Deut 30:15-20 Psalm 119:1-8 1 Cor 3:1-9 Matthew 5:21-37

### February 19:

Exodus 24:12-18 Psalm 2 2 Peter 1:16-21 Matthew 17:1-9

### February 26:

Genesis 2:15-17;3:1-7 Psalm 32 Romans 5:12-19 Matthew 4:1-11 WE WILL BE HOLDING OUR MONTHLY PRAYER WALK ON FEBRUARY 19TH AFTER WORSHIP. PLEASE STAY AND JOIN IN ON PRAYING FOR OUR COMMUNITY!



Join us!

February 12 after worship!

Our annual soup & salad luncheon.

All are welcome!

and blessings be upon you! Wishing you a very Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday in faith

- 2 Karen Marshall
- 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 19 Karen David
- 24 A. Jean Morrow Vicky Baker
  - 26 Jim Heasley
- 27 Christina Logan
- 28 Kristine Schafer

You'll notice a set of banners hanging in the sanctuary. They will be rotated every I to 2 months. We'll mention who they are from and who they are in memory of. We thank those who have supported this way of enhancing our worship space. At this time, the memorial banner with the *shell & water* (Christian Baptism) is from Wiebke Kilbert in honor of Rev. Herb Borchelt; and the one with the *chalice & wheat* (Holy Communion) is in loving memory of Rev. Brian Kilbert's grandmother, Juliet Clark.

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### <u>A Devotional For You</u> – – Read John 1:40-42 & Revelation 2:17

So, I've been noticing a little trend in our study of Christ's disciples (using the video series, *The Chosen*) – in multiple cases, the disciples are 'given' new names. Peter may be the most well-known example. His original name was Simon. But when Jesus first meets him – like in the first 30 seconds – he gives him a new name: "You shall be called Cephas (Peter)" – which, translated means "Stone." Those were apparently his first words to Peter, *before* Peter did anything, or put his foot in his mouth yet. It's almost as if Jesus, from the start, wanted to say that Peter's actions in the past (and even in the future) weren't the most important thing. Right from the start, Jesus communicates that *his* word, *his* plan, *his* and view of Peter was what's *more important*. Don't miss that – that's significant. God's grace in Christ is the primary mover.

And from then on, "Rock" was Peter's nickname. Jesus knew what he was doing because it was a name he'd have to grow into. By nature, Peter was brash, vacillating, and, though fiercely loyal, he made promises too big for him to keep. I believe (strongly) that Jesus wanted the nickname to be a perpetual reminder to him about who he *should* be, or better, who he was *chosen and called* to be ... This idea of being given a new name to shape who we are has echoes in the Old Testament – in Isaiah 43, God says, "I have called you by name, you are mine" and in Revelation Jesus says to the churches: "to the one who endures to the end ... I will give a white stone, with a new name written on the stone."

John MacArthur shares the story of Tommy Lasorda – former manager of the LA Dodgers. There was a young, skinny pitcher chosen by the Dodgers. The youngster was a bit timid but had an extraordinarily powerful arm. Lasorda was convinced the young pitcher had the potential to be one of the greats. But the young man needed to be more fierce, more bold. He needed to lose his timidity. So, Lasorda gave him a nickname (the *opposite* of his personality): "*Bulldog*." Over the years, that's exactly what *Orel Hershiser* became, one of the most tenacious competitors who ever took the mound. The name became a perpetual reminder of what he ought to be, what he was *chosen* to be. And it shaped his attitude, and his attitude before long, shaped his legacy.

Do you know, if you're a Christian, you have a 'new name'? The question is, are you letting it be a perpetual reminder to you, of who you are in Christ, and how that has the potential to change everything?! As Paul says in his letters, "God has *not* given us a spirit of timidity, but of *power, love and self-control.*" Eventually, after some setbacks and failures, Peter finally 'found his name' in Christ after the resurrection – his nature (impetuous, impulsive, overeager) was transformed – not entirely lost, just 'reformed' on the Potter's wheel, his boldness balanced with humility – he became a rock – both firm and well-settled in the face of storms. The same can be true for us, for you: receive the name by which the Lord has called you – let the perpetual reminder of how he sees you shape your life to benefit others and bring God's glory. *Soli Deo Gloria*.



The Sunday Women's Bible Study will continue our journey through The Chosen. We will be meeting on February 5th for episode 3 and February 19th for episode 4. Please bring your lunch and be ready to continue our discussion.



There he was transfigured before them.



**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"). You will hear more in the coming weeks. 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'll be starting 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.

You should receive an email invitation for FREE access to RightNow Media

*by February 5th*. (If you don't, be sure to check your spam folder, or just request our office to send it to you personally.) To get started, simply click the link in the email, 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.





February 22, 2023 7:00 PM





#### Youth Group

We came back in full force after Christmas Break. We started the year off with an outing to *Las Hachas* Axe Throwing in New Ken

on Jan. 8<sup>th</sup> (what a blast) - definitely going back sometime! A few new faces have joined us ("Welcome Sarah, Trent & Ashley") and we're excited about the new friends being made. A few of our students just became "Jr. Firefighters" – congratulations Liv and Aby. About a half dozen of our students plan to attend the *Pine Springs REMIX retreat* (Feb.  $10 - 12^{th}$ ), so please pray for not only fun and safety, but for all of us (students and adults) to have vital encounters with Christ and grow deeper in our faith. At the end of the month (2/26), we plan on participating again in *Bowling for Blessings* at Wildlife Lanes as a fundraiser to support AVAC's work in the area to support those in need – we'll probably be getting 3 lanes just for the youth group. Our Youth Group usually meets every Sunday (6:00-8:00 PM) and is for ages 5<sup>th</sup> grade and up.

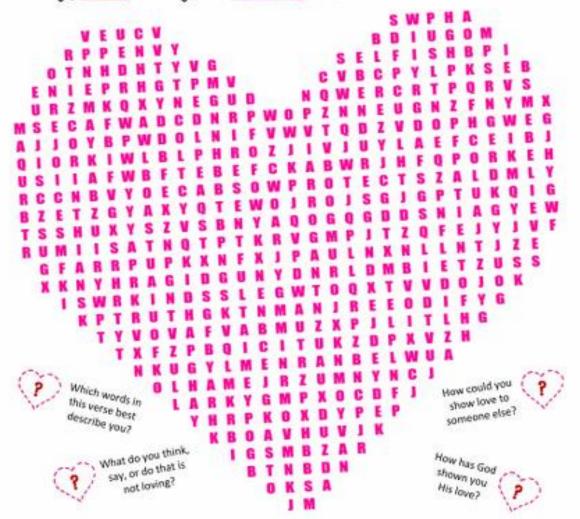


Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>29</b> 10:00am Worship 11:30am Ladies Lunch 6:00pm Youth Group	<b>30</b> Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group Meeting	<b>31</b> 4:30pm Worship Team Meeting 6:00pm Girl Scouts 20130 8:00pm N.A. meeting	<b>1</b> Meals on Wheels 6:30pm Deacons Meeting 6:30pm Pastor Brian Small Group Meeting	2 NO CHOIR	<b>3</b> Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	4
5 10:00am Worship 11:30am Women's Bible Study 6:00pm Youth Group	<b>6</b> Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group Meeting 10:30am Card Ministry 6:00pm Upkeep Team Meeting	7 5:30pm Girl Scouts 46799 Meeting 6:00pm Girl Scouts 20130 Meeting 6:30pm Outreach Team Meeting 8:00pm N.A. meeting	8 Meals on Wheels 6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal 6:30pm Pastor Brian Small Group Meeting 6:45pm Girl Scouts 26605	9 5:30pm Girl Scouts 26234 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>10</b> Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED Youth Group Leaves for Pine Springs	<b>11</b> 9:00am Serene Baby Shower
12 Youth Group Returns from Pine Springs 10:00am Worship 11:00am Soup and Salad Luncheon	<b>13</b> Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group Meeting 6:30pm Seneca Service Unit Leader Meeting	14 Valeptines Day 1:00pm Bracken Small Group 6:30pm Session Meeting 8:00pm N.A. meeting	<b>15</b> Meals on Wheels 6:30pm Pastor Brian Small Group Meeting	<b>16</b> 5:30pm Girl Scouts 26234 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>17</b> Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	18 12:00pm Girl Scout Service Unit Event
19 Cransiguration 10:00am Worship 11:00am Prayer Walk 11:30am Women's Bible Study 6:00pm Youth Group	20 Presidents Day Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group 4:30pm Discipleship Team Meeting	21 5:30pm Girl Scouts 46799 6:00pm Girl Scouts 20130 Meeting 7:00pm Sewing Guild 8:00pm N.A. meeting	22 Meals on Wheels 6:45pm Girl Scouts 26605 7:00pm Worship Service	23 5:30pm Girl Scouts 26234 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	24 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	25
26 10:00am Worship 12:30pm Youth Group Bowling for Blessings	<b>27</b> Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group	28 1:00pm Bracken Small Group 4:30pm Worship Team Meeting 8:00pm N.A. meeting	<b>1</b> Meals on Wheels	<b>2</b> 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>3</b> Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	4
	<b>T</b>	~5		3		



Can you find the underlined words from this Bible verse about what love is in the puzzle below? Think about what God says love is while you answer the questions at the bottom of the page.

"Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way (selfish); it is not initable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing (evil), but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things (protects), believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things." ~ 1 Coninthians 13:4-7



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