

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

*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.

July 2024

Post-Scripts
a monthly publication

Pastor's Corner

Summer is here! I'm writing this in the middle of June because by the time you read this I will already be in Salt Lake City, UT, for the General Assembly gathering of the PCUSA. (Thank you for your prayers thus far, and please continue to pray for the work of all the commissioners, delegates, moderators, corresponding members and the many volunteers – that we would all serve faithfully in a spirit of love and obedience to the Lord!) I hope to come back with things to share about my time. But right now, I'm smiling. See, this is usually the time of year where you read in a church's newsletter a note from their pastor about continued faithfulness as a church through the summer months (I've already read a similar message in 3 different church newsletters from colleagues and friends). I've done this myself before and will likely do it again, because it's important to remind ourselves (personally and collectively) as a community of faith that though it is important to have times for rest and refreshment, we don't really "take a break" from being members of the church and our Kingdom work. However, as I literally see (and hear) the paving work being done on our parking lot (praise the Lord), and see that we have 59 registered kids for VBS (I'm looking forward to what the final count

will be – probably reported later in this newsletter – go God!), and know that we continue to be involved with local missions like Family Life Network (Origins) on a monthly basis ... I don't have to say much because many of you are doing something better: *setting an example!*

Better than a pastor's words to encourage faithfulness – as important as those may be – is the example of the faithful members of the church in action! When we gather for the Church Picnic on July 14th, I encourage all of us not just to talk about summer plans and vacation stories, but what God is doing in and around us! All of us, every single one of us, can continue to be a minister of the gospel through the summer, so we're not rusty but well-primed come "the Fall." Someone might say, "Can you be more specific, Brian?" *Sure: 1) send an encouragement card to our Pine Springs Summer Staffer (Kylee Hoffman) before the end of July, so she knows just how many of us are praying for her! [details in bulletins + hallway board]; 2) reach out to one of the kids/families who participated in VBS (Deb/the office has addresses and I'm sure the registrar would love the follow up help!) – maybe send a card inviting them back to both the July 14th Church picnic and to Children's Church or Rally Day on Sept. 8th. Or maybe 3) personally reach out to a couple of our own members who haven't been with us in a while – again inviting them to the July 14th Church Picnic, etc. That should be enough ideas to get the juices flowing. Opportunities await – let's pray (and then be the heart, voice and hands of God in action), with new insights to be part of the larger Church, carrying out the Kingdom work he has for us. Grateful for all of you, and the Lord's working through you,*

Pastor Brian

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!

A Big “THANK YOU!” to our Upkeep Team

On behalf of the church, and particularly the Capital Campaign planning team, we would like to extend a *big and heartfelt “Thank you!”* to Vince Appleman and the *Upkeep Team* for their recent efforts in the care of our facilities. *Many* things are done that perhaps aren’t immediately noticed or recognized, but we know your list is long, and your hands have been BUSY (not only in regular maintenance but improvement measures). Of special note are the particular projects in the capital campaign. The united effort between the various bodies of the church has been a wonderful example of cooperation and “building up.” Those of us in the office know the great many hours that have gone into:

- *Researching companies & contractors
- *Contact and ongoing communication with said businesses (which admittedly comes with frustrations, setbacks, changes and adjustments) with patience and wisdom.
- *Excellent communication with the Session and Capital Campaign committees (not only with clearly delineated reports and details about contracts, etc. but at every level).

Suffice it to say, Puckety Church (individually and collectively) are blessed to have such a faithful and diligent group of servant leaders, working as you do, as the Upkeep Team. We also want to encourage other members of the church to consider joining their team and see how you may be able to be an ongoing support to them in their efforts. One last time, thank you and God bless you all, as you continue to be a blessing.

Please find below the AV Team schedule. You will notice that the sound volunteers are only three people and have to serve on a more frequent basis than the other volunteers. We have connected headphones to the computer so volunteers no longer need to connect to Zoom via a smart phone or bring in their own headphones. We hope that this change may help any of you who are have been thinking about volunteering to say yes. We have a dedicated team but life circumstances happen and without another two volunteers for the sound board we may soon have a Sunday where worship sounds very different, a quieter "acoustic" worship service.

Date	Presentation Creation	Presenter	Sound	Zoom host
7/7/2024	Beth	Beth	Rodney	Chari
7/14/2024	Wiebke	Joyce	Nate	Wiebke/Chari
7/21/2024	Sandra	Sandra	Zach	Chari
7/28/2024	Brian	Joyce	Rodney	Chari/Wiebke
8/4/2024	Beth	Beth	Nate	Wiebke



- 07 Not needed
- 14 Chari Burtner
- 21 Mick Dober
- 28 Beth Dober

Your Deacons:

- Sandra Ankney
- Pat Fish
- John McAllister
- Cecil McCutcheon
- Brandy Roland
- Mira Whalen
- Kim Soulcheck
- Sandy Appleman
- Fran Kapelewski
- Nita Serene
- Bruce Sproull
- Vicky Eckman

Corporate Officers:

- President:** Chuck West
- Vice-Pres.:** Maria Schafer
- Secretary:** Debra Artman
- Treasurer:** Jolene Kostelansky

SUMMER IS HERE...and with it, time off for the choir. From the beginning of June until the end of August, we need special music to fill the spot usually reserved for anthems. If you are willing to share your musical talent (vocal or instrumental), just sign up on the list provided on the hallway bulletin board. If you need accompaniment, please let Jesse Oddis or Lorraine Menk know. If you have audio recordings, etc., please let someone on the AV team know.

Your Session:

- Deb Artman – Clerk
- Jolene Kostelansky
- Mick Dober
- Kelly Kapelewski
- Marilyn Crumley
- Helen Crissman
- Maria Schafer
- Sandy Schafer
- Chuck West
- Matt Wehrle



Offering counters:

- 07: Jolene Kostelansky, Sophia Earhart & Matt Wehrle
- 14: Helen Crissman & Marilyn Crumley, Janet Karan or Jolene Kostelansky
- 21: Janet Karan & Jolene Kostelansky
- 28: Chuck & Judy West

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

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!

The Deacons are in need of 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 Bible readings are from "Book of Common Worship"

July 7:
2 Sam 5 :1-5,9-10
Psalm 48
Ezek 2 :1-5
Mark 6:1-13

July 14:
2 Sam 6:1-5, 12b-19
Psalm 24
Amos 7:7-15
Mark 6:14-29

July 21:
2 Sam 7:1-14a
Psalm 89:20-37
Jer 23:1-6
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

July 28:
2 Sam 11:1-15
Psalm 14
2 Kings 4:42-44
John 6:1-21



save the date: TRUNK OR TREAT WILL BE SATURDAY OCTOBER 26TH THIS year. WHY ARE WE ASKING YOU TO save the date so early? WE WILL BE PAIRING TRUNK OR TREAT WITH a BASKET RAFFLE TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN. THE WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY WILL BE IN need EVERYONE'S HELP TO MAKE IT a GREAT SUCCESS. IF YOU HAVE a KNACK FOR PUTTING FANTASTIC BASKETS TOGETHER OR WANT TO HELP IN SOME OTHER WAY PLEASE LET WIEBKE KNOW.

General Assembly 2024

We ask that you continue praying for Pastor Brian and the other commissioners from Redstone Presbytery (Robin Jennings, Jackie Eckenrod & Andrew Wirt) as they travel to Salt Lake City, Utah for the plenary work (June 29-July 5). There are 15 different committees – Pastor Brian is on the General Assembly Procedures (GAP) committee. In total, there are over 134 items of business they will be addressing and voting on (actually a “low” number of items for the bi-annual gathering).

Want to know more? Visit: ga-pcusa.org

MEMORIAL BANNERS:

"This is the Day the Lord has Made"

donated by Mark Nelson in memory of his parents

"I am the Way the Truth and the Life"

Donated by Deb Artman and the Benish family in loving memory of Theodore Karan, Pearl & Royden Calhoun



- 2 Jackson Aungst
- 4 Bob Bargerstock
- 7 Matthew Pranievicz
- Beth Dober
- 9 Georgianne Bargerstock
- 10 Keira Manges
- Lauren Benish
- 11 Cathy Yohe
- Ralph Baker
- 13 Matthew Burtner
- 15 Abby Fisher
- Garrett Baker
- 17 Bruce Sproull
- 18 Brandy Roland
- 20 Jennifer Swartz
- 24 Tynia Girard
- 28 Talor Kapelewski
- Gianna Smith
- 31 Clayton Jones

Capital Campaign

The total for capital campaign is **\$84,348.35**. The loan money was deposited and \$126.19 was paid for interest on the loan. The parking lot is completely paid for (\$70,000), the church roof work is scheduled to begin in mid to late August, and a 50% deposit was made on the sign (\$10,318). First full loan payment (\$1,350.04) is due on July 25.



The Puckety Praise Team is actively seeking out a drummer to play for Sunday morning services and Thursday evening rehearsals! They are also wanting to open themselves to any guitarists, vocalists, or any other musician who wants to dedicate their talents to the Lord. If you or someone you know might be interested, please see Pastor Brian, Jesse O, or any member of the Puckety Praise Team.

Sunday, July 14, 2024

Following Worship in Faith Hall
Fellowship and Care Team is providing
burgers, hot dogs, and drinks.

We ask you to sign up on the sheet in the Sanctuary to bring the different side dishes, salads, and desserts! Please RSVP to Charlene McKay or the church office by July 7th. **SEE YOU THERE!**



We are now actively looking for a snow removal company for this coming winter season. If you know of a company that could supply us service, please speak to any member of the Upkeep Committee. We would like to be under contract as soon as possible.

Jesse Oddis' mom is in the process of trying to sell his grandfather's electric scooter. He hardly used it and it's in good condition. The price is somewhat negotiable. Perhaps someone at church would want it or would know someone who would want it. Contact Jesse if you or anyone you know might be interested. 724-882-9242



The *Operation Kid-to-Kid* collection total - the VBS kids/ families and congregation helped raise was \$384.05 - enough to provide clean water for about 50 kids in Honduras for a year!

A Devotional for You Read Acts 28:21-22, 25-31

Well, I just finished writing the last sermon in our series on “The Acts of the Holy Spirit.” I know that I have gotten a great deal out of the devotion and study time. I pray that you have as well. As the book of Acts closes, put yourself in Paul’s shoes. He’s in Rome, and no doubt hopes all his work up to this point has somehow paved the way for something wonderful. And then the people there say – to *paraphrase* v. 21-22: “we’ve never heard of you, but we want you to explain this new Christian sect thing, because everything we hear is bad.” Can you imagine that?! But how does the story end? With him talking about the Holy Spirit and “proclaiming the Kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness.” I just said that’s how the book “ends,” but that’s wrong isn’t it? ... That’s simply where the baton is passed for the ongoing story. Because the Holy Spirit is given to *us*, not just so we are blessed with God’s presence, but that we may be witnesses to Jesus and his resurrection.

Do you know that part near the end of the *Apostles Creed* (in the Holy Spirit section by the way) about the “communion of saints”? That’s not just about sweet fellowship. Biblically, there’s a lot of depth to what we hold “in communion” with them. Those who have gone before us include, especially, those who have lived, suffered, and died to bear witness to Jesus as the world’s true Lord. To be “in communion” with Paul (and the rest of them) is far more than simply hoping that our departed loved ones will still in some way be in touch with us, that there will be some kind of mystical contact beyond the grave. It is to share in active solidarity with all those who have been the “kingdom people” of their day (in Rome, Wittenberg, Geneva, Edinburgh, Pittsburgh) and to gain strength and courage from them for our own witness.

The Holy Spirit and the task of the Church. The two walk together, hand in hand. Let me end with a quote from N.T. Wright: “God doesn’t give people the Holy Spirit in order to let them enjoy the spiritual equivalent of a day at Disneyland. Of course, if you’re downcast and gloomy, the fresh wind of God’s Spirit can and often does give you a new perspective on everything, and above all grants a sense of God’s presence, love, and joy. But the point of the Spirit is to enable those who follow Jesus to take into all the world the news that he is LORD, that he has won the victory over the forces of evil, that a new world has opened up, and that we are to help make it happen” (Wright, *Simply Christian*, p. 122).

Yes, people continue to associate bad connotations with the word, “church” – not unlike what Paul had to face when the Romans said, “with regard to your (religious group) we know that everywhere it is spoken against.” But it’s really beside the point. It is *who we are in Christ*, and like Paul, our identity gives us a job to do. My main point is: without God’s Spirit, there is nothing we can do that will count for God’s Kingdom. Without God’s Spirit, the Church simply can’t be the Church. But *WITH* the Holy Spirit ... well, let’s find out together.

Pastor Brian

RAISERIGHT FUNDRAISING – an easy way to contribute to our Capital Campaign! All you do is buy gift cards from your favorite stores to earn money for Puckety Church to help with the cost of replacing the parking lot, church roof and new sign! There are flyers at each entrance to the sanctuary with all the information you need to get started.



TAI CHI CLASS!!!

Join in for a relaxing exercise that

is beneficial to the whole body. Tai chi trains you to find alignments that are safe and unstrained allowing you to perform graceful movements. **Every Wednesday 6:00 PM in Faith Hall** Led by Donna Jeffries.



CHILDREN'S CHURCH SUMMER SCHEDULE

July 14th

July 28th

August 11th

August 25th

We will return to the normal weekly schedule, starting Sunday, September 8th.

Your Pine Springs Summer Staff Person Is...

Kylee Hoffman
Westminster College
Counselor (2nd year)

Please address letters/packages in the following ways:

If sending through USPS:

[staff member name]
Pine Springs Camp
c/o Maddy Duffield
PO Box 186
Jennerstown, PA 15547

If sending through Fed Ex or UPS:

[staff member name]
Pine Springs Camp
c/o Maddy Duffield
371 Pine Springs Camp Road
Boswell, PA 15531

Pray:

Pray for your staff member weekly. You can remind the congregation during worship or through the bulletin.

Note:

Send a note between June 1st - 9th to introduce yourself and share an encouragement for their work this summer. Feel free to send as many notes as you would like throughout the summer.

Package:

Send 1 shoebox sized package filled with the following items:

- Cards/Notes
- Snacks: Candy, Candy Bars, Chips, Salty Snacks, etc. (Nothing with peanuts or tree nuts)
- \$25 GAS Gift Card (Giant Eagle Get-Go or Sheetz are near camp)
- \$25 RESTAURANT Gift Card (Chains near us are Eat 'n Park, Subway, Applebee's, Chili's, Chipotle, Ruby Tuesdays, etc.)
- Small Devotional or Christian Book

You can send notes and packages until August 7th (staff's last day). Please include your return address so staff can write a thank you note!

Email Maddy (maddy@pinesprings.org) if you have any questions

Crafternoon: We will be meeting on July 21st after service. Bring your current project and a snack if you are inclined. This is a great time to relax and work on our project with other crafters.

The next Ladies Luncheon is on **July 28** and we will be going to **China Lobster** in Lower Burrell. We will **gather after the service in Hope Hall** by the display case and head over more or less as a group. Contact Denise Wehrle for any questions or if you need a ride.

Parking Lot Project is Complete

The parking lot renewal project is now complete, so start your engines and drive up and take a tour. But be sure to follow the arrows.

First, we the Upkeep Committee, want to thank **YOU**, the congregation, for your generosity that made it happen. Let us not forget that it was God's inspiration and the fulfillment of his wish that was behind the project from beginning to end.

I wish to thank the Upkeep Committee for the commitment of time and support. They guided us through the project making careful thoughtful decisions in consultation with the contractor. We would like to extend a special thank you to Tim Eckman, Fran Kapelewski and Jack Barnett for their continuous on-site vigilance during the project. We encountered numerous issues that arose during the 5 and ½ day project, but none of the problems proved to be insurmountable thanks to their knowledge and experience.

A special note of appreciation to Pastor Brian and Kelly, both were a key part of the project. They handled emergency scheduling and other parking accommodation problems with unbelievable flexibility, calm, skill, tact and above all kindness as an expressive example of God's will. This proved to be a real juggling act and became the most challenging part of the project for us. The good news was no clients of ours experienced a cancellation over the 7 days of access closures.

Our contractor was Smullin Asphalt and Concrete from Curtisville, PA. The owner, Jim Smullin, was a true pleasure to work with. He met everyone of our expectations and beyond, accommodating us at every turn. The project was to have taken just 4 days, but due to unexpected circumstances it was extended by a day and a half. There was no alarm on his part, such things are common he said in the construction business.

No doubt by now you have noticed that the parking lot has a little different look in comparison to our old parking layout. It was necessary to meet all the present lining codes and regulations. These, of course, were things that the contractor was required to do. There was no flexibility there!

We chose diagonal parking that is presently a more popular design. You can pull in and back out at a 45-degree angle instead of the older more common 90 degree pull in-pull out technique. Diagonal is far easier to do. But diagonal parking requires that you follow a laid-out pattern directed by arrows to follow. Not doing so can create confusion and potential accidents. It is imperative that we all follow the designated arrow flow pattern. We have 3 double rows for vehicle parking and 4 serpentine flow rows. We will learn how to use them.

Some of the changes are regulations that all of us, the lot owner (us) and the contractor must follow.

1. All **handicap spaces** must be on a less than 2% grade for boarding and deboarding safely with a loading and unloading zone on its right. (It should be noted that the parking lot did not have a single area that met that requirement, so our contractor built us one that gave us 4 handicapped spaces with loading zones. It should be further noted that it was too cost prohibitive to build more and they would have been further from our buildings negating their value.)
2. **Thoroughfares:** a thoroughfare is defined as a road way area that allows for passage of vehicles without **any** obstructions on them. This would include parked cars, no outlined parking spaces and no other physical obstacles to inhibit traffic flow. Our thoroughfares are the 2 entering and exiting driveways. **Please do not park along any of these.** They are required to be 26 feet wide around the building to accommodate emergency vehicles such as fire trucks, ambulances, etc. The drive way at the back of the church by the lower entrance and ramp entrance and the driveway in front of Faith Hall are thoroughfares. The 4 rows with arrow designations in the parking lot are flow thoroughfares.
3. The parking lot was found not to be square, to maximize our number of spaces to 90, and to allow for proper flow, there are three parallel spaces at the far back left corner of the lot.
4. As you well know, the **dumpster area** required special attention. It now is 50 feet by 50 feet and has a base of 8 inch of stone and 8 inches of asphalt plus protective fabric to absorb and with stand the punishment of the weighty garbage truck.
5. The **manse driveway** paving was an unwanted surprise. When excavated it was found to not have a base. It was then necessary to dig one out. Then it was filled with 8 inches of stone, 4 inches of asphalt plus the addition of protective fabric. This was not a contracted item. The cost was absorbed by the contractor.

Lastly, we know that the new directional parking and flow pattern will be an adjustment. We thank you for your patience and understanding.

Sidenote: CHURCH ROOF: The church roof has a **tentative** scheduled window to start between this July 15 to July 31, 2024.

Thank you all,

Your Upkeep Committee

HOAGIE SALE



Hoagie Sale! Please support our summer fundraiser for the Capital Campaign and the repayment of our loan. See *Jenn McKay* for options and order details (724-882-7856). Please bring your final orders to the Church Picnic on July 14th. Final deadline is the 16th. There will be order forms in the upcoming bulletins. The pickup/delivery day will be Thur. July 25th (1:30 PM). Thank you for your support!



July 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 Children's Church 10:00am Worship 11:30am Ladies Lunch 12:00pm Awes Grad Party	1 Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group 6:00pm Upkeep Team Meeting	2 8:00pm N.A. meeting	3 Meals on Wheels 6:00pm Tai Chi	4 OFFICE CLOSED 	5 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	6 Burtner Birthday Party
7 10:00am Worship	8 Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group 5:30pm MS Group Meeting 7:00pm Seneca Service Unit Leader Meeting	9 5:00pm Origins Outreach 8:00pm N.A. meeting	10 Meals on Wheels 6:00pm Tai Chi 6:30pm Schafer Small Group	11 6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal	12 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	13 Church Picnic Prep
14 Children's Church 10:00am Worship 11:30am Church Picnic 	15 Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group	16 6:30pm Outreach Team Meeting 8:00pm N.A. meeting	17 Meals on Wheels 6:00pm Tai Chi	18 6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal	19 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	20
21 10:00am Worship 11:30am Crafternoon	22 Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group	23 5:45pm Joint Meeting Session/Deacons 8:00pm N.A. meeting	24 Meals on Wheels 6:00pm Tai Chi 6:30pm Schafer Small Group	25 1:30pm Hoagie Delivery/Pick-Up Day 6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal	26 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	27
28 Children's Church 10:00am Worship 11:30am Ladies Lunch 	29 Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group 10:30am Card Ministry	30 8:00pm N.A. meeting	31 Meals on Wheels 6:00pm Tai Chi	1 6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal	2 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	3 9:00am Hicks/Becker Reunion



Father's Day special music provided by Lorraine Menk, Jesse Oddis and the women of Puckety.

SOME VBS FUN!!



