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. Children's' Church 10:00 a.m.







Following Jesus...Making Disciples...Loving One Another as He Loves Us
December 2018

PASTOR'S PARAGRAPHS - Doug Marshall

My high school choir loved to sing The Twelve Days After Christmas; "The first day after Christmas, my true love and I had a fight. And so I chopped the pear tree down and burned it just for spite..." This parody of the Twelve Days of Christmas was a fun song. The twelve days of Christmas actually start with Christmas Day, and go through Epiphany, yet most of us forget about Christmas by then. Instead we think about Christmas during the advent season, which seems to start earlier every year. (When did you see your first Christmas merchandise in stores?) As we move into the Christmas season I would like to share with you Questions for the Twelve Days of Christmas. I ran across these in an article and thought I'd share them with you. I hope these questions will help you experience the true joy of Christmas, and to know the meaning of the presence of Christ in your lives.

1) What could you do to make Christmas a time of spiritual renewal?

2) Which receives the most attention in your household at Christmas, the "advent" of Santa Claus or Jesus Christ?

3) How could you avoid the pressure – from the media, friends, relatives – to do things and spend money in ways that do not honor the birth of Christ? How can you avoid and resist the commercialization of Christmas?

4) Are you comfortable with the gift-giving patterns of your family? Does your spending for Christmas reflect your faith?

5) The Gospels say that Christ's coming was "good news to the poor." How could your Christmas celebrations also be "good news to the poor?"

6) What could our church do to provide resources and encouragement for people who want to find new ways to celebrate Christmas?

7) Santa brings gifts to those who are good and not to those who are bad. How does this conflict with the gospel of God's grace? What does this say to children who are too poor to get Christmas presents?

8) What do you do with the irony that some of the most popular gifts given at the celebration of the birth of the Prince of Peace are war toys?

9) Three-fourths of all advertising dollars are spent in the last quarter of the year. How does that affect the way you celebrate Christmas?

10) Is the environment better or worse because of the way you celebrate Christmas?

11) When the bills came last January and February did you wish you had spent less in December?

12) What does the presence of Christ coming into your life mean for you?





In December

- **2** Sophia Earhart
- 9 Chari Burtner
- **16** Michelle Gordon
- 23 Mick Dober
- **24** Beth Dober (if needed)
- **30** Vince Appleman

Your Session:

Debra Artman Sophia Earhart Rebecca Fisher Jolene Kostelansky Charlene McKay Jennifer McKay Doug Marshall Mike Tatem Matt Wehrle Chuck West

Corporate Officers:

President: Sophia Earhart **Vice-Pres.:** Matt Wehrle **Secretary:** Debra Artman **Treasurer:** Donna Bracken

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. Your Deacons: Sandy Ankney Beth Dober Mick Dober Margie Hazlett Brenda McAllister John McAllister Maria Schafer Rodney Schafer Kim Tatem Peg Uhing Jean Welte

CHURCH STAFF

Interim Pastor: Doug Marshall

Administrative Secretary: Kelly Kapelewski

> **Treasurer:** Donna Bracken

Choir Director: Lorraine Menk

Organist/Pianist: Sue Close

> **Custodian:** Dean Kunkle

Housekeeper: Irene Nelson

Assistant Treasurer: Sophia Earhart

Financial Secretary: Judy West



- 2 Mike Tatem and Jennifer McKay
- **9** Charlene McKay and Matt Wehrle
- **16** Rebecca Fisher and Deb Artman
- 23 Sophia Earhart and Jolene Kostelansky
- 24 Chuck West and Mike Tatem
- **30** Jennifer McKay and Charlene McKay

POWER OF PRAYER

To the family of God here at Puckety: We want to remind you that there are people here at Puckety who are available to pray for you after the worship service and we invite you to take advantage of these opportunities for prayer. We are asking that all who desire prayer to come and be seated in the first or second pew, up by the communion table. This will help us be aware of your desire for prayer. "The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective." (James 5:16b)

Counters Schedule

- 2 Janet Karan and Deb Artman
- 9 Chuck and Judy West
- 16 Jolene Kostelansky and Sophia Earhart
- 23 Helen Crissman and Marilyn Crumley
- **30** Janet Karan and Deb Artman

Please be sure to check the bulletin board outside the church office any time you are visiting the church. It is full of useful information and announcements from throughout the community!



Like and follow us on Facebook for updates and info on activities and events as well as announcements!



<u>Annual Christmas Dinner</u>

Sunday, December 16, 2018

Following Worship Service in Faith Hall

Entertainment being provided by musicians from member of Burrell High School Band!

The Fellowship and Care Committee will provide chicken beverages, and rolls.

Please bring a salad, vegetable, or dessert to share.

The Puckety Church Annual Youth Christmas Card distribution will begin December 2, and run through Dec. 23. Please just place any cards you would like delivered postage free to anyone in the congregation into the "mail box" that will be in the hallway. The youth will deliver them for you before Worship each Sunday in the month of December.





The Deacons will be collecting names of local families in need of a Food Basket for Christmas until Dec. 13, 2018. Delivery will be Saturday, Dec. 15th from 9:30-10:30am. Please place the tear-off below in the offering plate, email or call the church office or drop off a note!

Sponsor's Name/Number:_____ Family Receiving Food Name/Number/Address:_____ Number of Adults:_____ Number of Children (& ages, if known): _____



The Bible readings are from "Book of Common Worship"

For the week of: December 2:

Jer 33:14-16 Psalm 25:1-10 1 Thess 3:9-13 Luke 21:35-36

December 9:

Mal 3:1-4 Luke 1:68-79 Phil 1:3-11 Luke 3:1-6

December 16:

Zeph 3:14-20 Isaiah 12:2-6 Phil 4:4-7 Luke 3:7-18

December 23:

Micah 5:2-5a Luke 1:47-55 Psalm 80:1-7 Hebrews 10:5-10 Luke 1:39-45

December 30:

1 Sam 2:18-20, 26 Psalm 148 Col 3:12-17 Luke 2:41-52



(If your name does not appear or if the information is incorrect, please contact the office so that the records may be updated.)

Attention Ladies:

There will not be a Ladies Lunch in December but we will resume in January!

There will be a brief Congregational Meeting immediately following Worship next Sunday, December 2nd to review the 2019 budget. Please plan to stay.

Blessings On Your Birthday!!!

- 3 Donovan Cosentino
- 6 Howard Newell
- 8 Mark Benish
- 9 Deb Fotheringham
- 10 Nita Serene
- 12 Bernard Adams
- 13 Karen Tkach
- **14** Jeff Burtner
- **17** Emma Hough
- 20 Becky Cosentino
- 21 Julia McAllister
- 23 Bill Dailey
- 24 Amanda Schirato
- 27 Tanya Marshall Linda Zurenski
- 29 George Tkach
- 30 Joyce Ewing
- 31 Jack Guyer



Please include the PNC (Pastor Nominating Committee) in your daily prayer list!

*Ask God to work schedules out, so that they can meet when needed and all be able to participate.

*Ask God to give them wisdom as they read through the PIF (Pastor Information Forms), and do interviews with candidates, to hear what is being said as well as what is not being said. *Ask God to give them unity of thought and mind as they rate/rank candidates, so that they would be led to the pastor God desires for Puckety.

*Pray about anything else for them that God brings to your mind.



December 14, 2018

Free to ALL Lower Burrell Senior CitizensI

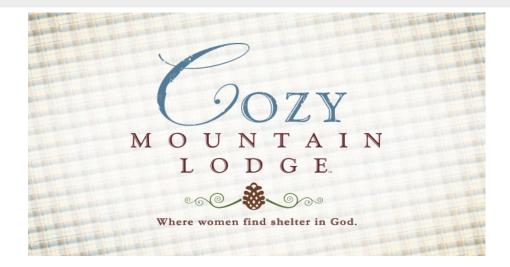
Holiday dinner in the Burrell High School cafeteria.

For details, see Irene Nelson or call the high school office.

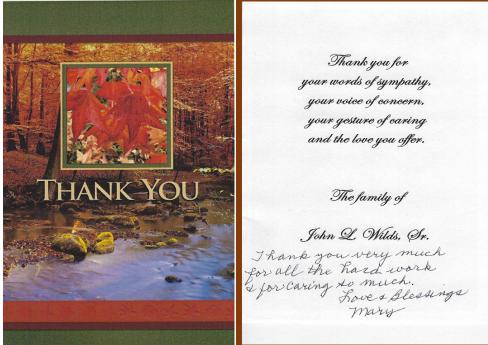
SAVE THE DATE!!

Cozy Mountain Lodge – Women's Retreat Friday April 5 – Saturday April 6, 2019 More information will be coming!

Watch Puckety's website, Facebook and your bulletins/Post Scripts!



Special thanks to all who volunteered in preparing and providing the Funeral Luncheon For **John Wilds**





Burrell Meals4Children Packing Schedule 2018-19

December 5th Puckety December 12th BCC December 19th Grace Comm January 2nd Bethesda

January 9th Puckety January 16th BCC January 23rd Grace Comm January 30th Bethesda

February 6th Puckety February 13th BCC February 20th Grace Comm February 27th Bethesda

March 6th Puckety March 13th BCC March 20th Grace Comm March 27th Bethesda

April 3rd Puckety April 10th BCC April 24th Grace Comm May 1st Bethesda

May 8th Puckety May 15th BCC May 22nd Grace Comm May 29th Bethesda

Food items needed soon:

individual mac and cheese servings single serving cereal individual servings of chicken, tuna, etc small packages/boxes of trail mix small canned pasta meals (must have pop off lids) soup cups breakfast bars any healthy, single serving breakfast or lunch item small packs of crackers

<u>At this time, we have 75 children registered for the program.</u>

Each week we pack at least one piece of fruit in each bag (apple, orange, tangerine). I would like to keep the current arrangement where the church which is doing the packing brings the fruit for the each of its scheduled packing weeks. We purchase the fruit a day or two before the packing.

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE: Rev. Derek Campbell of Union Presbyterian Church, Murrysville, PA will have a "Blue Christmas Service" for those who might need extra uplifting due to sadness, loss, worry and concerns during this Christmas season. The special service of scripture, message and music will be at Union on Sunday, December 9 at 6:00 pm. All are invited. The address is Union Presbyterian Church, 656 Route 380, Murrysville, PA 15668. Special thanks to all who volunteered in preparing and providing the Funeral Luncheon For **Jeffrey West**



Christmas Joy Offering

There will be a special offering taken during worship on December 23rd. Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, we turn our eyes to Bethlehem and celebrate the wondrous gift of Jesus Christ, our Savior. By giving to the Christmas Joy Offering, you honor this gift by providing assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need and by developing our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

The Assistance Program of the Presbyterian Board of Pensions promotes and sustains the wholeness of church workers in their ministries. It also provides a safety net to plan members and their families who have specific needs that exceed personal resources and other means of support. Also, the following schools benefit from this offering: Johnson C. Smith University, Knoxville College, Menaul School, Presbyterian Pan American School, and Stillman College.

Please consider supporting these key programs of the Presbyterian Church.







Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

- 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, NIV

As you pause to reflect in this season of gratitude, please know that we are thankful for you! Because of your generosity, sponsored children around the world can go to bed filled with hope for a bright future, knowing they are loved.

So, on behalf of children in Compassion's program, thank you. We really can't say it enough, but we'll try: **Thank you, thank you, thank you, thank you!**

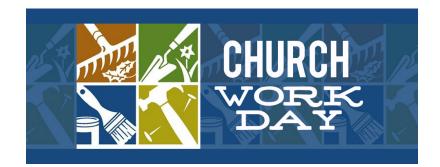
In Christ,

Your Compassion Family

P.S. This Thanksgiving we are also celebrating all of the reasons we are thankful for kids. <u>To read more, check out our blog.</u>



The "Our Daily Bread" devotional, <u>Regular</u> print for the months of December 2018 and January/February 2019 is available at all entrances to the sanctuary and on the glass display case near the conference room. Please pick up a copy for yourself, a friend, or relative.



SPECIAL THANK YOU!

On behalf of everyone here at Puckety Church, I would like to take a moment to thank the gentlemen that participated in the Puckety Work Day that occurred here last month. They are: Jack Barnett, Jack Guyer, Matt Wherle, Chuck West, Mick Dober, Dean Kunkle, and Vince Appleman. Some people have no idea the effort that goes behind making Puckety look and function as well as it does! Thank you!



December 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School 10:00 AM Children's Church 10:00 AM Worship	26 Meals on Wheels 4:15 PM Worship Team Meeting	27 8:00 PM N.A. meeting	28 Meals on Wheels 9:30 AM Meals 4 Children Food Packing 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	29 10:00 AM Coffee Hour 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	30 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED 1:00 PM Line Dancing	1
2 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School 10:00 AM Children's Church 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM Congregati onal Meeting	3 Meals on Wheels 10:30 AM Card Ministry 6:30 PM PNC Meeting 6:30 PM Upkeep Meeting	4 1:00 PM Bracken Small Group 6:30 PM Tatem Small Group 8:00 PM N.A. meeting	5 Meals on Wheels 9:30 AM Meals 4 Children Food Packing 6:30 PM Deacons Meeting 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	6 5:30 PM Girl Scouts 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	7 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED 1:00 PM Line Dancing	8 4:00 PM Votquenne Birthday Party
9 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School 10:00 AM Children's Church 10:00 AM Worship 1:00 PM Maloney Birthday Party	10 Meals on Wheels 6:30 PM Seneca Service Unit Leader Meeting	11 6:30 PM Session Meeting 8:00 PM N.A. meeting	12 Meals on Wheels 9:30 AM Meals 4 Children Food Packing 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	13 5:30 PM Girl Scouts 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	14 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED 1:00 PM Line Dancing	15 8:00 AM Snow Holiday Reunion
16 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School 10:00 AM Children's Church 10:00 AM Worship 11:30 AM Church Christmas Dinner	17 Meals on Wheels 4:15 PM Worship Team Meeting	18 1:00 PM Bracken Small Group 6:30 PM Tatem Small Group 7:00 PM Tatem Small Group 8:00 PM N.A. meeting	19 Meals on Wheels 9:30 AM Meals 4 Children Food Packing 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	20 5:30 PM Girl Scouts 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	21 First Day of Winter Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	22
23 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School 10:00 AM Children's Church 10:00 AM Worship	24 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED 7:00 PM Worship Service	25 OFFICE CLOSED CHRISTMAS	26 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	27 Office closed	28 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED 1:00 PM Line Dancing	29 10:30 AM Miller Christmas Party
30 Bates Birthday Party??? 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship	31 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	1 OFFICE CLOSED New Years Day	2 Meals on Wheels 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	3 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	4 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED 1:00 PM Line Dancing	5

May this Christmas fill your homes with the peace and joy of Christ. May this year, you come even more closer to God. Merry Christmas to you and your family.



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