

Puckety Presbyterian Church

1009 Puckety Church Road
Lower Burrell, PA 15068

(Return Service Requested)

Last Day For:

Post Scripts Information:

Third Wednesday of the month.

Bulletin Information:

The Tuesday before the Sunday the
article is to be announced

REMINDER:

Worship: 10:00 a.m.

Youth Church 10:00 a.m.

Youth Group: 6:00 p.m.

MARCH

Puckety Church

Post-Scripts
a monthly publication

Following Jesus...

Making Disciples...

*Loving One Another
as He Loves Us*



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

March 2017

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PLEASE READ!!!! Beginning 2/1/17 Faith Hall Rentals POSTING THIS AGAIN IN CASE YOU MISSED IT!

In an effort to simplify and clarify the policy process for renting Faith Hall, these changes have been recommended by the Upkeep Committee and approved by Session at their January meeting. These actions were taken to ease the administration of the rental of Faith Hall, hopefully simplifying the process for Upkeep and for Kelly as our administrative scheduling agent. This effort was entered into with a sense of trying to establish greater fairness to our church and its renters.

There are two primary changes to be made. It must be clearly stated at the beginning that the "no charge rental privilege" for any active member to use the hall rent free still remains as it was in the past. It needs to be firmly stated that the "no charge" rental pertains to active members strictly for their personal activities. A member cannot reserve it free of charge for a non-member, this would apply to non-member relatives or non-member friends. They are obviously permitted, invited and even encouraged to rent on a paying basis. But they must make their own reservation and sign a contract under their name. This was decided because many rentals were being made by members believing they were helping a friend or relative. This was done with no wrong intentions but out of a sense of being helpful. These rentals left the church paying for utilities, custodial service and depreciation of the facility over time.

As a side note, in conjunction with the above statement, Session has approved the creation of a fund where the rental fees that are collected will be placed. This will allow funds to accumulate so we can invest in long range capital improvements for Faith Hall. The building is now 38 years old and much of it still has its original equipment. Hopefully this will help address these needs. Faith Hall serves us extremely well. It is used over 500 times per year, sometimes by three different groups in one day.

The second change deals with the fee for usage and applies to only non-member rentals. We are going to a flat fee charge of \$100 per rental that must be paid in full when we receive the signed contract prior to the scheduled event. The charge will be the same no matter how long a renter uses the facility on the reserved day. The prior charging method was \$30 per hour and it relied on the renter to report the exact hours of use and to pay with the return of the key after the event. This solves two potential problems, the honest reporting of hours of use and the failure to receive a final payment. It needs to be added that Kelly, working with Upkeep, did significant research with other churches and the city of Lower Burrell on their rental programs. This was done over a period of ten months to help us find the best approach to our policy and fees.

As a final statement, Faith Hall will continue to be used at no charge by non-profit charitable community groups that are considered to be part of Puckety's Mission as God's servant to the community and greater church outreach. The following is not a complete list, but here are some specific examples we support in this manner, Meals-On-Wheels, Boy and Girl Scouts, Narcotics Anonymous, Muscular Dystrophy Society and others that are approved by Session.

Tuesday March 21 6:15-7:00 is our Community Prayer Service. Please join us as we lift up our community to God in prayer!

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS In MARCH

5 Jenn Motosicky
12 Denise Wehrle
19 Maria Schafer
26 Sophia Earhart

Your Session:

Debra Artman
Rebecca Fisher
Matt Wehrle
Sophia Earhart
Kirk Orr
Jolene Kostelansky
Mick Dober
Mike Tatem
Vicki Orr
Sue Close

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
Vi Adamski
Cliff McKay, Jr.
Brenda McAllister
Lauretta Lockwood
Jennifer Motosicky
Irene Nelson
Maria Schafer
John McAllister
Nita Serene
Denise Wehrle

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor:
Kirk Orr

Director of Youth Ministries:

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

GREETERS SCHEDULE

5 Sophia Earhart and
Rebecca Fisher
12 Matt Wehrle and
Sue Close
19 Deb Artman and
Jolene Kostelansky
26 Mick Dober and
Mike Tatem

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

5 Chuck and Judy West
12 Jolene Kostelansky
and Sophia Earhart
19 Chari Burtner and
Matt Wehrle
26 Janet Karan and
Deb Artman





Bible Readings

The Bible readings are from
"Book of Common Worship"

For the week of:

March 5:

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7
Psalm 32
Romans 5:12-19
Matthew 4:1-11

March 12:

Genesis 12:1-4a
Psalm 121
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17
John 3:1-17

March 19:

Exodus 17:1-7
Psalm 95
Romans 5:1-11
John 4:5-42

March 26:

1 Sam 16:1-13
Psalm 23
Eph 5:8-14
John 9:1-41



Blessings On Your Birthday!!!

- 1 Lori Antonacci
- 2 Irene Nelson
- 3 Sophia Earhart
- 5 Richard Duncan
- 6 Melissa Baronie
- 7 Ben Johnston
- 10 Helen Crissman
- 13 Alexandra McKown
- 14 Jason Schwartz
- 17 Patricia Baker
- 20 Nancy Scibilia
- 22 Zachery Schafer
- 26 Jane Weaver
- 30 Leon Yurkin
- Trevor Hazlett
- Richard Schwartz
- Sue Jamison

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



The Worship Team wants you to be aware and encourage you to use the Media Worship resource that is available on the church's website. All sermons for the year 2016 have been recorded and are available for playback. Go to www.pucketychurch.org. Then click on worship then media.

COZY CASSEROLE

Please plan to stay after Worship on Sunday, March 19 as we all share in good food and good fellowship for our first annual COZY CASSEROLE!

A sign-up sheet will be placed in the sanctuary soon so that you may sign up to bring something to share! Even if you don't/can't bring anything, please come anyhow! All are welcome!!!

Ladies Luncheon

Join us for Ladies Luncheon on March 26th after Worship at Villa Ballanca. Please meet in the hallway to go down together.



Packing Date	Church	Puckety Team
March 8th	Puckety	Team 2
March 15th	BCC	
March 22nd	Grace Comm	
March 29th	Bethesda	
April 5th	Puckety	1 Team
April 19th	BCC	
April 26th	Grace Comm	
May 3rd	Bethesda	
May 10th	Puckety	Team 2
May 17th	BCC	
May 24th	Grace Comm	
May 31st	Bethesda	

HELP NEEDED!



Would you like:

- To keep your mind fresh and sharp?
- To learn new things or utilize what you already know in a different way?
- To have the privilege of worshipping as you work?

JOIN THE VIDEO TEAM!

We need at least 2 new persons to join the team so that no one needs to volunteer more than once a month. There are either 4 or 5 Sundays or other worship opportunities each month. We currently have 3 volunteers.

WE NEED YOU!

You can work from the comfort of your own home and computer during the week. Someone will lead you and be beside you while you learn the ins and outs. Talk to Mark Benish, Beth Dober or Matt Wehrle if you are interested in being a part of this important ministry.

Janet Karan is looking for someone to schedule Greeters.

Please contact her if you are interested.



Please find, at each of the entrances to the Sanctuary, the newest edition of the Our Daily Bread devotionals. They are for the months of March, April and May. Help yourself and if you know of anyone else who might enjoy a copy, please pass one along!

Women's Retreat

Life is busy...come relax and put aside the hectic pace for a weekend as you laugh, share stories with friends and spend time with God.

Friday March 24th (7:00-8:45pm) and Saturday March 25th (8:30am-4:00pm)

Cost: \$10.00 (includes workbook and light breakfast and lunch on Saturday).

Stop in the Conference Room after church to sign up starting today. You can sign up through March 1 (Wednesday).

This weekend retreat isn't just for women who have a "certain amount of faith," or a certain "depth" of faith...this is for ALL women who want to know Jesus better!



If you have questions, please contact Rebecca Fisher at 412.260.1571 or at rfisher@syfcomputing.com



The Deacons of Puckety Church met February 1, 2017 and the meeting was opened with prayer.

Requests received for the month of January were discussed.

Deacons received canned goods from Girl Scouts who did a food drive at their cookie kick off. We are very appreciative as our cupboards were bare after the holidays.

Protocol during the benediction was discussed. We must honor the benediction and not move about or extinguish the candles during this time.

A decision about the need for juice used for communion and for Kirk to take on his pastoral visits was discussed.

The Deacons will give \$100 to the Girl Scouts to participate in the Cookies for our Troops. Cookies will be sent to troops through Sam's Pop Shop. Both Brenda and John McAllister abstained in voting. All in favor.

There is an area in the Deacon's closet for paperwork or files.

Because Ash Wednesday is on our next meeting day, we will meet the following Wednesday, March 8th instead.



The Deacons have hung the Flower Chart for 2017. Please feel free to sign up to dedicate the chancel flowers in your name at no cost to you!



What: Maker Fun Factory Vacation Bible School

Who: Children ages 3 years-5th grade

**When: Mon. June 26th-Fri. June 30th
from 6:00pm-8:30pm**

There are many different ways YOU can help, some before VBS, some during...some behind the scenes, some with the kids each night. Either way, to make our VBS as successful as possible, we need YOUR help! Take a look at the opportunities to see where YOU can fit in:

Crew leaders: These volunteers are not responsible for teaching the VBS material in this role. They are responsible for taking a group of 5-8 children from station to station, talking with the children in their group, getting to know the kids and sharing God's love with them! Getting to know their group of kids, and sharing God's love happens in a variety of ways...talking with them when they arrive each night, asking questions to get to know them during snack time (snack is eaten together with your crew), and talking as you move from station to station. You have opportunities to share yourself with them, and help them to understand how much God loves them. We need approximately 5-7 crew leaders, depending on the number of children signed up. This person should arrive at 5:35 each evening.

Bible Story Station Supply Helpers: This two-person team will find, gather, whatever props and things are needed for the Bible Story Teller. This 2-person team would work with the Bible story teller, to ensure that supplies are ready each night. At least one of the two people in this team needs to stay and assist the Bible story teller each evening as the story is told to each crew. This person should arrive at 5:35 each evening.

Station leaders: They stay in one place and are responsible for leading one particular station. This person should arrive at 5:35 each evening.

We need leaders for the following stations: Imagination Station (the Science experiments and Crafts area), the Bible Discovery Station (where the Bible story is told to the children each evening), Snack Factory (the place where all kids and staff come to eat and fellowship), Kid-Vid Cinema (where kids watch stories about real-life children who are learning about and embracing the way God made them), and the Game Makers station.

If you are a station leader, you are asked to familiarize yourself with what you are doing each night of the week, and create a list of materials/supplies needed and submit that to the Donation Board Manager so they can add your items to the board.

Station leader helpers: These people help a particular station leader each night of VBS and if the leader wants/needs help, this person would help the leader gather/organize materials and prepare the activities for each night. This person should arrive at 5:35 each evening.

Nursery Care: This 2-person group is responsible to care for any children (younger than 3 yrs. of age) whose parent is helping during VBS. This takes place in the cry room in the sanctuary. This person should arrive at 5:35 each evening.

Head Decorator: This person would be the lead for all the decorating throughout the church and Faith Hall. They would gather other people to help them do the decorating. This job does not require you to be at VBS at all.

Decorator: These people (3 people would be ideal) would work with the "head decorator" to transform the sanctuary and hallways into a maker space, and transform the Bible Story room into a variety of places from the Bible for the week of Bible School. This person will "un-decorate" also, sometime after the Sunday 6/25 worship service. This job does not require you to be at VBS at all.

Donation Board Manager: This one or two-person group is responsible to create the donation board, and manage the collection of all the items that come in so we know what still needs to be purchased and what we have. This is done prior to VBS starting and does not require you to be at VBS. (There is a template you can use and help is available if you'd like it!)

The "Whatever is Needed" job: This one or two-person group should arrive at 5:30 each evening, and should plan to show up the first two nights of VBS and is very willing to just be "around." They understand that they might be asked to serve as a crew leader if more kids sign up at VBS on the first night, or maybe just asked to be a "runner" finding people, or relaying messages. It's possible this person or group may not need to do a lot. This person or group is very important to have when those unexpected situations arise to help us handle them smoothly!

The Greeter: This one or two-person person group is asked to arrive by 5:35 each night, and to welcome parents as they drop their child off for VBS and answer any questions they might have about where their child goes, or other VBS questions. This person should be very comfortable talking with people and their children and making them feel at home with us!

The Child Supervisor: This one or two-person group would need to arrive each evening at 5:40, and will supervise the children who arrive at VBS prior to 5:50, so that the staff can spend a few minutes having staff devotions each evening. After children are in the sanctuary (at about 5:55 each evening), this job is done and the person/group is free to go home.

If you have questions, please contact Rebecca Fisher at 412.260.1571 or at rfisher@syfcomputing.com

VBS is coming soon...if you want to help this year, and don't have your clearances on file in the church office, don't wait!! Ask Rebecca Fisher how to get your clearances so you can be able to join the fun!



THE PEACE OF OUR SOULS
DOES NOT HAVE TO
RISE AND FALL WITH
UNPREDICTABLE PEOPLE
OR SITUATIONS.

@LYSATERKEURST

During the month of March, the Deacons are asking the Puckety Congregation to provide names and addresses of family members or relatives currently attending college. Anyone who has attended college knows that a successful college experience requires hard work, dedication and sacrifice. Prioritizing and planning their day can be challenging and requires discipline, especially when faced with unexpected hardships. As finals approach, the Deacons will be sending the students a gift as one way of letting them know that their Puckety Church family is thinking about them. Please pray for them as they discover and use the talents and gifts that God has given them. Names and addresses can be given to any Deacon or to Kelly, our secretary. The gifts will be mailed out the first week of April.



The season of Lent is a time of prayer, fasting and self-examination in preparation for the celebration of the resurrection of the Lord at Easter. It is a period of 40 days — like the flood of Genesis, Moses' sojourn at Mount Sinai, Elijah's journey to Mount Horeb, Jonah's call to Ninevah to repent and Jesus' time of testing in the wilderness.

The first Sunday in Lent will be March 5th.

As spring rapidly approaches, the Upkeep Committee is looking for mowers to help with the mowing of the church and cemetery grounds.

What this entails is allowing your name to be placed on a rotating list. You will not to be asked to mow every time. If the number of volunteers allows, you would mow only 4 or 5 times over the mowing season. This time period generally runs from the beginning of April through the end of October. Even though you may be on a rotating list, you still have maximum flexibility, allowing adjustments for vacations and life's surprise events. Mowing can be scheduled around your hours of availability. The list is simply a skeleton plan designed to meet the needs of all involved. We welcome all who are interested, women, men, the young (middle school through college age), and older folks (we offer them light duty arrangements). If you are interested in helping to provide a vital surface to the church, please call the church office or see Vince Appelman or any member of the Upkeep Committee.



The Deacons will be collecting names of local families in need of an Easter Food Basket until April 5. Please email or call the church office or drop a note off!

The Worship Team would like you to know that the Ash Wednesday Service is at 7:00 pm on March 1st. Let's prepare ourselves to receive our Lord Christ in new ways this Lenten season by coming humbly, in confession and repentance, to receive Him.



Sunday, March 5th, will be our annual Congregational meeting for the election of officers. Please plan to stay after worship.

Because of the Ash Wednesday service, the Deacons meeting on March 1 has been changed to the following week, on March 8, regular time, 6:30pm.

2017 Joint Church Lenten Luncheons

Sponsored by the New Ken/Arnold Clergy Association

In cooperation with our local churches

All churches and their members are welcome

Wednesdays at 12 noon

March 8th Arnold United Methodist Church

March 15th St Marys & Mount Saint Peter Parishes - at St Marys Friendship Hall

March 22nd Logans Ferry Presbyterian Church

March 29th New Kensington Salvation Army

Come, break bread and fellowship with

members of our faith community

For more information, email questions to

Invr4get911@aol.com

Why ashes? Connecting to who we are and who we can be

Portion of a Feature by Joe Iovino*

One Wednesday a year, sometime in February or March, you notice someone at work, school, or elsewhere with a smudge on her forehead. It looks as if she missed a spot when washing. Then you see another who looks as though he needs to glance in the mirror. By the time you see the third, you realize it is **Ash Wednesday** and these passersby must have received the imposition of ashes.

This practice we use to mark **the first day of Lent** may seem odd. People go to church mid-week to have a cleric place dirt on their foreheads.

In the early days of the church, it was even more dramatic. Pastors did not dip their thumbs into the ashes to draw the shape of a cross on your forehead. Instead, they poured or sprinkled ashes over your head.

Under any other circumstances, most would run from ashes. We avoid cleaning fireplaces for fear of the filth from them, yet we participate in this practice that is growing in popularity. In fact, the receiving of ashes seems to connect with all sorts of people.

Why ashes?

In “**A Service for Worship for Ash Wednesday**” in the *United Methodist Book of Worship*, two suggestions of what worship leaders may say as they make the sign of the cross on another’s forehead are offered: “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return,” and “Repent, and believe the gos-pel.” Each points to an aspect of what the ashes represent.

Remember that you are dust...

Ashes were an ancient symbol of our humanity. In Genesis, we read that God formed human beings out of the dust of the earth (Genesis 2:7). The Hebrew word translated *dust*, is occasionally translated *ashes* elsewhere.

When Abraham felt the need to acknowledge the difference between him, a human being, and the infinite God, he referred to himself as dust and ashes. “Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord,” he said, “I who am but dust and ashes” (Genesis 18:27).

...and to dust you shall return

Our humanity also calls to mind our mortality.