

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 2023

Post-Scripts
a monthly publication

Pastor's Corner

Whew! What a whirlwind of a month – first the monumental reflooring project at Faith Hall and then ... well, anyone who thinks “things slow down” in June when school gets out hasn’t had much exposure to a VBS week! I want to use a couple lines here to say, “Thank you” to the great MANY people who gave significantly of time and resource to make it a success: our *Co-Directors* (Erika Manges and Emilie Greiner), our preschool and elementary *station leaders* (Lisa Wilson, Tina Logan, Landon Cable, Pamela McAllister, Irene Nelson, Beth Dober, Denise Wehrle, Brenda McAllister, Pat Fish and the other assistants), our many stellar *crew leaders* (Vicky, Donna, Alice, Jolene, Cecil, Nita, Joyce, Lisa, Izzy, Leonna, Noelle, Grace and the back-ups too!), our creative *decorating team* led by Maria & Rod Schafer and Chari & Jeff Burtner + many hands), our *registration, promotion and donation teams* led by Deb Artman, Kelly Kapelewski and Wiebke Kilbert with their assistants) and the others *who worked behind the scenes* and donated supplies. It would probably go beyond this page if I named everyone else.

Please know I’ve thanked God for you by name, and we are grateful for every one of you. May God bless you for your servant hearts, and please keep praying for the kids. We had *around 70 children* in total participate! That’s a lot of hearts that Jesus can touch and use to shine his light. VBS does NOT end on VBS Sunday. Yes, of course, all of us deserve a break to breathe and take in what God has done in some well-earned rest. However, that week is not an end in itself – it’s seeds that continue to need water and care ... it’s a foundation to continue to build on ... it’s a springboard to continue the scaffolding work of kingdom building. All of which to say, the natural extension of our prayers is continued invitational work to the families of our community, capitalizing on the connections we made with those families. This doesn’t happen automatically or with a simple mailer from the church office. It is all our responsibility to keep “shining Jesus’ light” by engaging and inviting them to other church events (*Back to Church Sunday 9/10, Church Bonfire 9/23 & Trunk or Treat in Oct.*) with the goal of incorporating into our weekly life of faith, worship and mission. To this end, may God’s Spirit equip and encourage us.

Pastor Brian

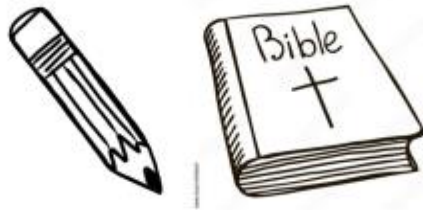
Remember to check Puckety's website and social media!

Website: www.pucketychurch.org Like and Follow on Facebook: Puckety Presbyterian Church

Follow us on Instagram: Puckety Church Follow us on Twitter: @churchpuckety

Addiction Ministry Network
of the Presbytery of Redstone and

HOPE IN A BAG



Addiction takes away everything.



Hope in a Bag started when Renah's Uncle Mike died from a drug overdose. Renah from Smithton at the age of 12 started collecting toiletries and other small items for people who entered addiction treatment. Making the choice to enter treatment for addiction is a big step. Unfortunately, many people try to "get clean" without the simple things like soap, razors, or a toothbrush. The Addiction Ministry Network of Redstone Presbytery is sponsoring a presbytery-wide collection by asking congregations to contribute some or all the items listed below and **bring them to our Presbytery meeting in September 26 in Latrobe.**

YOU CAN HELP!

Please consider donating the following items for recovery

Small Bible
Pens and Pencils
Journals
Cards
Soap/Body Wash

Shampoo/Conditioner
Toothbrushes
Toothpaste
Deodorant
Razors
Feminine Hygiene Products

Dental Floss
Nail Clippers
Q-Tips
Small Blankets
Hardtack Candies

Everyone: This is an invitation for your congregation to join together in a shared worship service and picnic beginning at 10:00 a.m. on July 16, 2023 as the Calvin Hays Log Chapel at Pine Springs Camp is rededicated. Come prepared to worship God and fellowship with one another. Please let us know how many to expect by emailing or calling the Presbytery office - secretary@redstonepresbytery.org - 724.837.6737.

The Deacons need the following for the food pantry:

Cereals pasta and spaghetti sauce mac n cheese
any vegetables (except green beans and corn) soups
canned fruit canned meat/fish juice dry or boxed milk
If you care to donate, please leave the items outside the metal cabinet in the hallway by the library.



Our Pine Springs Summer Staff Person to encourage this year is: Kylee Hoffman! She is a Cornerstone Counselor, long time camper & Tim Team Member. She will be attending Westminster College in the fall. Please send correspondence to:

Kylee Hoffman
Pine Springs Camp
c/o Maddy Duffield
PO Box 186
Jennerstown PA 15547

The deadline is July 17!! If you have any questions, please ask Chari Burtner.
THANK YOU!



Mark your calendars for our first ever Ministry Fair coinciding with our August Coffee Hour on August 13th immediately following Worship in Faith Hall! Come see how you can connect, grow and serve along with others here at Puckety Church! Refreshments will be served. All are welcome.



- 02 Jennifer McKay
- 09 Chari Burtner
- 16 Mick Dober
- 23 Mira Whalen
- 30 Vince Appleman

Your Deacons:

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

Corporate Officers:

- President:** Jennifer McKay
- Vice-Pres.:** Cliff McKay, Sr.
- Secretary:** Debra Artman
- Treasurer:** Jolene Kostelansky

Joint Board Meeting Tuesday, August 8th - Inside the fence - the inner yard of the Manse - All are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share. [Feel free to bring your own folding chair for your comfort] 5:40 PM – Gather & 6:00 PM - Meeting start time!!

Your Session:

- Deb Artman – Clerk
- Jolene Kostelansky
- Jennifer McKay
- Cliff McKay
- Kelly Kapelewski
- Marilyn Crumley
- Helen Crissman
- Maria Schafer
- Sandy Schafer



Offering counters:

- 02: Chuck & Judy West
- 09: Jolene Kostelansky, Sophia Earhart & Matt Wehrle
- 16: Helen Crissman & Marilyn Crumley
- 23: Deb Artman, Janet Karan & Jolene Kostelansky
- 30: 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 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!

Memorial Banners Please take a moment to notice the 2 new banners from Irene Nelson *"His Love Endures Forever"* in honor of her aunt Laura Such, who just turned **103** on May 25th (Happy Birthday, Laura) and the other *"Let Everything That Has Breath Praise The Lord"* is from Sue Close in honor of Jesus Christ and Rev. Gary Close.



The Bible readings are from "Book of Common Worship"

July 2:

Genesis 22:1-14
Psalm 13
Jer 28:5-9
Romans 6:12-23

July 9:

Genesis 24:34-38
Psalm 45:1-17
Zech 9:9-12
Romans 7:15-25a

July 16:

Genesis 25:19-34
Psalm 119:105-112
Isaiah 55:10-13
Romans 8:1-11

July 23:

Genesis 28:10-19a
Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24
Isaiah 44:6-8
Romans 8:2-25

July 30:

Genesis 29:15-28
Psalm 105:1-11
1 Kings 3:5-12
Romans 8:26-39

Join us in welcoming our newest members to Puckety Church – Bruce and Kim Sproull! They have been attending worship for months now and have decided to become members. Welcome Bruce and Kim!

SUMMER SCHEDULE FOR CHILDREN'S CHURCH!

July 9, 2023

July 23, 2023

August 13, 2023

August 27, 2023

We will start back to every Sunday starting on September 10!



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



Our deepest sympathies to the family and friends of Ellen Fisher who passed away on June 25, 2023.

Also to Barb Sprinkle and the rest of the Curtis/Sprinkle family who lost their daughter, sister, wife and mother, Beth, on June 27, 2023.



Have you been looking for a way to finally get on top of your money? This. Is. Your. Time. Just visit fpu.com/1162776 to sign up for a nine-week *Financial Peace*

University class starting on **Thursday, July 6, 2023**. Make today the day you decide to own *your* money—not the other way around. You've got this!

A Devotional For You – Read Romans 3 (*entire chapter*)

We will be starting a sermon series this month on the middle chapters in Romans (following the lectionary). This devotional is partially in preparation for that [*Paul spends the first 4 chapters explaining the gospel of God in the face of universal human sin and the inadequacy of our human efforts to “fix” it*]. But I also see chapter 3 as a good text to meditate on as we remember our nation’s independence (“*Happy 4th*” by the way). Why? Because it’s about liberation from oppression and then not taking your freedom for granted?

In v. 24, Paul says we are “justified” by God’s grace as a free gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. Did you catch the last part? Even though this status (of freedom) is a gift – free to us – it was accomplished (at an incredibly costly price) by Christ. It makes me think of the freedom we enjoy as citizens of the United States. In one way, we don’t “pay for it” – in our Declaration of Independence we say that “liberty” is an inalienable right (something that belongs to us that can’t be taken away). However, you and I both know it came at a cost. In fact, it still does, right? There are those willing to give of themselves, put their safety at risk, and their lives on the line ... to ensure the protection of these freedoms for the generations to come.

Because of this sacrifice, we have peace. And Paul says because of Christ’s sacrifice we have peace with God – the hostility he (rightly) had with us, is done with. We employ our memory at this time of year (thinking of the patriotic conflicts in general and the Revolutionary War in particular). So, join me in employing your memory further – memory looks back upon past sins, with deep sorrow for the sin, but with no dread of any penalty to come, for Christ has paid what was necessary to secure our liberty.

Our belief in God’s justice can perhaps give us terror at first (like the threat of war can), but in the gospel, is it not marvelous that this very same belief that God is just becomes (in the work of the cross) the pillar of our confidence and peace. If God be just according to his own standards, I (a sinner standing in Christ) cannot be punished with the wages of my sin – because then they would be paid twice, punished twice, required twice. But God is just! PRAISE HIS NAME! Charles Spurgeon put it beautifully: “God must change His nature before one soul, for whom Jesus was a substitute, can ever by any possibility suffer *the lash of the law* ... [*we celebrate our independence from that accusing oppressor!*] My hope lies not because I am not a sinner, but because I am a sinner for whom Christ fought and died. My faith rests not upon what I am, or shall be, or feel, or know, but in what Christ is, in what He has done, and what He now doing for me. On the lion of justice the fair maid of hope rides like a queen!” (Charles H. Spurgeon, *Morning by Morning* – daily entry for Sept. 25th). So don’t just celebrate your independence, use it to live for Christ and glorify God. – *Pastor Brian*



During VBS week, the children collected money for Operation Kid-to-Kid. This year, they were collecting funds to buy Bibles to be sent to under-privileged children throughout the world in their own languages! They also supply tutors to help the kids understand scripture. The VBS children and YOU raised \$370.16!! That will buy 31 Bibles. Thank you all!



Do you love baby clothes? Could you teach Marie Kondo something about how to fold clothes for optimal storage? Do you want to do more to help others in our community? The TryLife Center here in Lower Burrell and the Outreach Committee have an opportunity for you! Small groups have been going to TryLife on the second Tuesday of the month and we have been sorting clothes and helping to organize them so the clients can easily find the clothing and supplies they need for their babies. We arrive at 5 pm and instructions are given and then the work begins. The work is done mostly standing, but chairs are available and our groups work as teams to help each other out with getting the totes back and forth. These tasks seem so small but make a huge impact on how the clothes are presented to the clients, lending a dignity to their situations. For those that don't know TryLife Center is a faith based, life-affirming pregnancy and family resource center. They help families succeed by supporting and empowering parents through free and ongoing education, counseling, material assistance and referrals through their Parent & Baby Program. They also offer free pregnancy testing, limited OB ultrasounds, STD/STI screening and treatment and HIV/Hep-C screening in house or with their mobile medical unit.

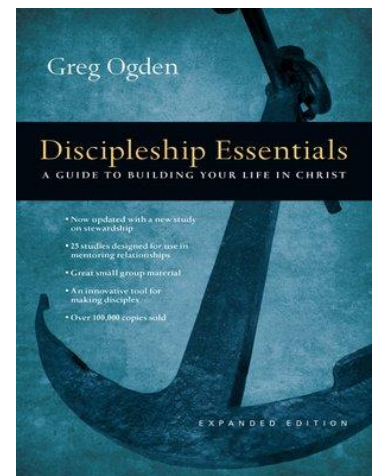
Our Daily Bread Regular & Large Print June / July / August – 2023

The “Our Daily Bread” devotional is now available at all entrances to the sanctuary and on the glass display case near the conference room. Please pick one up for yourself, a friend, or relative today.



Please stay after Worship on Sunday, July 16th for our annual Church Picnic. Everyone is welcome!

LAST CALL - if you would like to join Pastor Brian's small group - *Discipleship Essentials* (using Greg Ogden's classic book), please contact Rev. Kilbert by July 16th (day of the Church Picnic) to sign up and order your participant's book (\$18) - 724-678-6976. It was well received the first time it was offered so we want to do it again. The first meeting will be Wed. August 9th - meeting weekly from 6:30 - 8:00 PM (for 10 weeks). This is for BOTH our new members and for others who want to get a better grasp of the foundations of our faith and Christian identity. If you haven't joined one of Puckety's small groups, this is a great entrance point.





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”). 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’ve started 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. To get started, simply use the QR code below, 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.

Ladies Luncheon will be suspended for the summer months and will recommence in September. Have fun with your friends and family this summer. Woohoo! See you in September. [Hey, isn't that a song?]



PUCKETY IS GETTING A NEW *PICTORIAL CHURCH DIRECTORY!* THIS WILL HELP CONNECT OUR CONGREGATION EVEN BETTER! BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP. ONE OF THE FIRST THINGS WE’RE DOING IS AN ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING - THURSDAY, AUGUST 17 AT 2:00 PM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM - AND WE WANT YOU TO BE THERE. WE NEED MORE PEOPLE TO HELP OUT ON THE DIRECTORY TEAM (THERE ARE MULTIPLE WAYS TO HELP!) - AGAIN, WE CAN’T DO THIS WITHOUT CONGREGATIONAL PARTICIPATION. IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, CALL THE

OFFICE AT 724-339-1323. AND PLEASE ALSO MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR TUE. & WEDS, OCT 10-11, 2023. THOSE ARE THE PHOTO DATES (NO COST) - WE WILL START SCHEDULING IN LATE JULY, SO FEEL FREE TO CARVE OUT A COUPLE TIMES THAT WOULD WORK FOR YOUR FAMILY. HELP US SPREAD THE WORD SO *EVERYONE* IS INCLUDED! YOU WILL GET A FREE DIRECTORY AND 8X10 PORTRAIT JUST FOR PARTICIPATING. AND YOU WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO BUY ADDITIONAL FAMILY PORTRAITS. DON’T MISS OUT ON MAKING A NEW TREASURED MEMORY! OUR NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY WON’T BE COMPLETE WITHOUT YOU!

Session & Deacons

A reminder to our active Elders that in lieu of a meeting this month, we are using the second Tuesday (July 11th) to take our turn as the *TryLife* work team – we ask the Elders to be at *TryLife* in Lower Burrell on the 11th at 5:00 PM (estimated end time at 8:00 PM). Any questions (or to arrange transportation) contact Pastor Brian – 724-678-6976.

Also a reminder to ALL Church Officers that the **Joint Meeting** (of Elders & Deacons) will be *Tue. August 8th* at the Kilbert's home (yard inside the fence). Please bring a side dish (serving 6 to 8), and your chair of choice if desired. Please arrive at 5:45 PM to get settled. The meeting will start shortly after. Though a bit more relaxed, it's also a "Big Picture" meeting - all officers are asked to bring an observation regarding how Puckety has (or has not) consistently lived out our Mission to "Honor God, Grow in Faith, and Improve our Community & World" as well as a suggestion of how we may improve our ministry to that end in the coming year.

Puckety Church is hosting another

"Open Mic Night"

Sat. July 22nd - 6:30 to 8ish PM

Come play, perform, sing or enjoy. Help us spread the word! For more info. call Terry Sprinkle: 919-920-4986. *Free refreshments.*



In the Church Sanctuary.

Initial limit of 3 sets per group. Join us for fun, food, & fellowship!





Thank you to all that helped out in any way! Our VBS week was out of this world and a STELLAR good time!! All glory to God!



We had great weather!

The rocket launch was very exciting for all in attendance!

VBS 2023



JUST A FEW OF THOSE WHO HELPED WITH THE ENOURMOUS FAITH HALL PROJECT! The new floor, new paint, and new curtains (thank you Alice Knopfel) look fantastic! Stop by to take a look!



Faith Hall is a versatile building being used for a variety of events. It can be a place for a small or large group meeting; it can be the location for a large congregational gathering and/or dinner. It can also be a place for the youth to meet to enjoy an evening of learning mixed with fun and games. Frequently it becomes a most meaningful place of solemnity and solace, comforting mourners gathering for a meal after the internment of a family loved one or friend. And last, but not least, it has been for well over 40 years a source of sustenance for the needy members of our community and the immediate surrounding area through the service of Meals-On-Wheels.

As you well know, we offer the facility as a venue for various events such as birthday parties, graduation parties, wedding and baby showers, family reunions, etc. While the use of Faith Hall is free to all our members, it is a source of revenue as a rental for outside groups. The recently completed floor project in Faith Hall was made possible by a very wise and prudent decision by Session approximately a decade ago. At that time the ruling elders felt since Faith Hall was approaching 35 years of faithful service to our congregation, to Meals-On-Wheels and other community groups, that we needed to prepare to do necessary updates and renovations in the coming years. They decided all revenues from rentals would be placed in a separate account designated for the long-term upkeep and care of Faith Hall.

It was from these funds that we were able to cover the cost of the Faith Hall floor. The fund had accumulated slightly over \$18,000. We were further blessed by the generosity of Meals-On-Wheels who saw fit to gift us \$5,000 dollars toward the project. The project cost approximately \$22,000 and

we were able to pay for it in full.

Please stop and see the new floor under the new lights. Those who have seen it find it impressive. It is a glossy epoxy base floor with multiple flake colorations. It is durable and easier to maintain than a standard tile floor. We look forward to years of durable service from the new floor.

Also, we wish to call to your attention that the lighting system was totally replaced two years ago with LED efficient lighting. This was done through in house labor at a significant savings to us. The overall improvement of Faith Hall is a gradual process that we will continue to pursue as time and money allow.

Thank you – the Upkeep Committee

A Job Well Done

We hope that you have had the opportunity to see first-hand the new floor in Faith Hall. We think it has a very attractive appearance. While the old floor served us well, we are excited about the new updated look. If you have not seen it yet, please stop in to take a look.

We would first like to acknowledge the dedicated hard work on the part of the Upkeep Committee for the all the leg work that involved numerous meetings, interviews with contractors and suppliers plus numerous pre-arrangements relative to the project.

The Upkeep Team would like to thank all the individuals who worked on the Faith Hall floor project. We are hesitant to attempt to name all those who participated in the removal and returning of the contents of the hall. We are certain we would miss someone. There were numerous church members and a small number of friends. A number of people worked two shifts and worked all three days of the project.


The project was one of the biggest work undertakings our congregation has done in a number of years. We are blessed to have such loyal hardworking members and friends.

Everybody should pat yourself on the back. You deserve it. Thank you. And to God be the glory in the future use of the facilities.



The ladies of Puckety made a joyful noise indeed as they serenaded the men on Father's Day!

JULY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 10:00am Worship 11:00am VBS Celebration Picnic	26 Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group Meeting	27 9:00am Faith Hall Painting 8:00pm N.A. meeting	28 Meals on Wheels 11:00am Faith Hall Painting	29 6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal	30 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	1 10:00am Ellen Fisher Celebration Of Life
2 10:00am Worship	3 Meals on Wheels 10:30am Card Ministry 6:00pm Upkeep Team Meeting	4 OFFICE CLOSED 8:00pm N.A. meeting 	5 Meals on Wheels	6 6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal 6:30pm Financial Peace University	7 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	8 Mazur Baby Shower
9 10:00am Worship	10 Meals on Wheels 6:30pm Seneca Service Unit Leader Meeting	11 5:00pm Session @ Try-Life 8:00pm N.A. meeting	12 Meals on Wheels	13 6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal 6:30pm Financial Peace University	14 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	15 1:00pm Mele Graduation Party
16 Church Picnic  10:00am Worship	17 Meals on Wheels 4:30pm Discipleship Team Meeting	18 6:30pm Outreach Team Meeting 8:00pm N.A. meeting	19 Meals on Wheels	20 6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal 6:30pm Financial Peace University	21 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	22 6:30pm Open Mic Night
23 Tutelo Birthday Party?? 10:00am Worship	24 Meals on Wheels	25 8:00pm N.A. meeting	26 Meals on Wheels	27 6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal 6:30pm Financial Peace University	28 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	29
30 10:00am Worship	31 Meals on Wheels	1 6:30pm Outreach Team Meeting 8:00pm N.A. meeting	2 Meals on Wheels	3 6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal 6:30pm Financial Peace University	4 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	5 Hicks/Becker Reunion