

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.

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.*

March 2021

Pastor's Corner

Post-Scripts
a monthly publication

Dear Puckety family and friends,

We're about halfway through Lent, and I pray you've been using it to consider how Christ is calling you to "carry your own cross and follow [him]" (Luke 9). As I was thinking about this, it struck me that as members of his body (the Church), we're called to do this not just individually, but corporately. In other words, we're to prayerfully consider things like: "Given the *specific* spiritual gift I have from God, along with the place he's put me, what does the Lord want me to do with the opportunities before me?" Yet, we should *also* consider, what is the "cross" Jesus is calling Puckety to carry? Because he gives each local extension of his body (congregations) a redemptive purpose.

As a result of this, each of us should *go beyond* memorizing our mission statement: "*To personally and collectively Honor God, Grow in Faith, and Improve our Community & World.*" Just knowing that would be like knowing which cross is ours, but not picking it up. Carrying it means asking ourselves – where do we see this happening in the life of Puckety? It means connecting our various "moving parts" – all our ministry teams – so we don't see the Discipleship Team, the Outreach Team, the Worship Team, etc. just as separate committees doing separate functions, but integrated parts of carrying the mission and vision. Do you know the *life groups* being offered through the Discipleship team – are you taking advantage of that means to "*grow in faith*"? Do you know the opportunities the Outreach team is offering to support the Burrell district schools, as a way to "*improve our community & world*" and making a lasting difference?

I'm asking everyone one of us (*including me*) to make it a habit (something we intentionally do regularly so it becomes a pattern of behavior) to look for how Puckety is accomplishing its mission, and particularly how each of us is taking part in that. And I'll end by adding a little perspective. Don't think of this "cross" as a duty we "just have to do." Think of it as the opportunity of a lifetime to see what God is doing in the world and to be a part of it; through Christ, to be God's heart, voice and hands to those around us.

I want to be a part of God's sacred story, his drama of redemption ... and not to be a side character, with one line in the margins. I want my "one line" to affect the rest of it. I hope you do too! I'm excited, because I know what Jesus can do with crosses! So, why would we leave ours laying on the ground. Let's see what he does with it! Amen.

~ Pastor Brian



Our next gathering will be Saturday, March 6th @ 8:30 AM! Grab your mask and your crafts and join us in Faith Hall!

Remember to check Puckety's website and social media for information on upcoming events and encouragement!

Website: www.pucketychurch.org

Like and Follow on Facebook: Puckety Presbyterian Church

Follow us on Instagram: Puckety Church

Follow us on Twitter: @churchpuckety



PLEASE NOTE: WATCH WPXI (CHANNEL 11) OR KDKA (CHANNEL 2) IF YOU WANT TO CHECK FOR CANCELLATIONS OF WORSHIP DURING INCLEMENT WEATHER. WE WILL POST IT AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE ONCE THE DECISION HAS BEEN MADE TO CANCEL WORSHIP. THANK YOU

From the hearts and hands of Session

At our February Session meeting, some of our mission-focused work (*Honor God, Grow in Faith, Improve the World*) included:

* The decision to return to the bread we traditionally use for *Communion* (many thanks to Donna Bracken) for the next several months in worship (Honor God) – including Maundy Thursday (7 PM). Please note, that the individual sealed (pre-filled) Communion cups will continue to be used – the bread and cup will be distributed using the safety protocols in place.

* More discussion was held on the potential position of a *Christian Education Coordinator* – (Grow in Faith). Even though there are many aspects & roles such a person could oversee and help with, it was made clear that such a position would only be justified if a large section of the membership (*especially those not currently on a committee or team*) stood ready to volunteer and work with the coordinator. Though financing the position is a challenge, supporting the coordinator with “helping hands” is the most crucial to accomplish this strategic goal of Puckety.

* In addition to the opportunities the Outreach Team is highlighting for our church to support the teachers in Burrell School district, we also approved an upcoming special giving opportunity through TryLife: a *Baby Bottle Campaign* to help provide some necessities to needy families to help care for their babies (Improve the Community and World)

* Discussion on a Puckety Church *logo* tried to *balance* the need to engage/attract the attention of those beyond the wall *with* the desire for it to communicate our three-fold mission. We appreciate your prayers as we continue to do what it takes to reach the next generation, but also to do everything to the glory of God.



- 07 Sophia Earhart
- 14 Michelle Gordon
- 21 Chari Burtner
- 28 Mick Dober

Your Deacons:

- Sandy Ankney
- Mick Dober
- Pat Fish
- Margie Hazlett
- Traci Kirchartz
- John McAllister
- Cecil McCutcheon
- Brandy Roland
- Maria Schafer
- Kim Soulcheck
- Peg Uhing
- Jean Welte

Corporate Officers:

- President:** Matt Wehrle
- Vice-Pres.:** Jennifer McKay
- Secretary:** Debra Artman
- Treasurer:** Donna Bracken



Your Session:
 Deb Artman – Clerk
 Chari Burtner
 Jack Barnett
 Rebecca Fisher
 Michelle Gordon
 Charlene McKay
 Jennifer McKay
 Matt Wehrle
 Chuck West



Pastor:

Reverend Brian Kilbert

Administrative Secretary:

Kelly Kapelewski

Treasurer:

Donna Bracken

Choir Director:

Lorraine Menk

Organist/Pianist:

Sue Close

Housekeeper:

Irene Nelson

Financial Secretary:

Judy West

Media Specialist:

Chris Mason

Offering counters:

- 3/7: Helen Crissman & Marilyn Crumley
- 3/14: Janet Karan & Deb Artman
- 3/21: Chuck & Judy West
- 3/28: 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.



greeters

Please warmly welcome all, provide masks if needed and direct to designated seating.





The Bible readings are from
"Book of Common Worship"

For the week of:

March 7:

Exodus 10:1-17
Psalm 19
1 Cor 1:18-25
John 2:13-22

March 14:

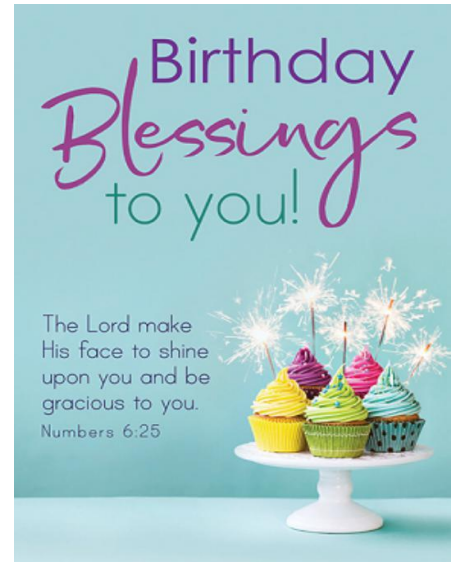
Numbers 21:4-9
Psalm 107:1-3,17-22
1 Eph 2:1-10
John 3:14-21

March 21:

Jer 31:31-34
Psalm 51:1-12
Heb 5:5-10
John 12:20-33

March 28:

Mark 11:1-11
Psalm 118:1-2,19-29
Isaiah 50:4-9a
Phil 2:5-11



The Lord make
His face to shine
upon you and be
gracious to you.
Numbers 6:25

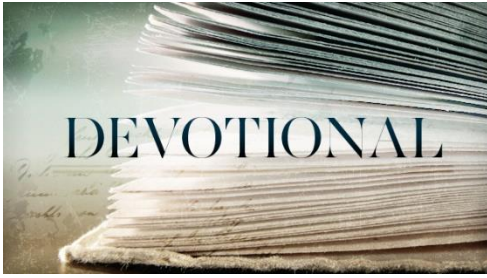
- 2 Irene Nelson
- 3 Sophia Earhart
- 6 Melissa Baronie
- 7 Ben Johnston
- 9 Myrna Zellefrow
- 10 Helen Crissman
- 13 Alexandra McKown
- 14 Jason Schwartz
- 17 Patricia Baker
- 21 Lisa Wilson
- 22 Zachery Schafer
- 26 Jane Weaver
- 28 Adam Szich
- 30 Leon Yurkin
- Trevor Hazlett
- Richard Schwartz
- Mark Cosentino



We ask all members to please bring their own masks each time you enter the church building if possible. This will help reduce waste of disposable masks as well as be good stewards of the ones we have in stock.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR MEALS ON WHEELS

Drivers and kitchen help are needed at Lower Burrell Meals on Wheels. We are a non-profit organization serving Arnold, New Kensington and Lower Burrell, working out of Puckety United Presbyterian Church. If you can volunteer an hour or two a week, please call 724-334-4404 and leave a message for a return call.



A Devotional for You ~ Read Luke 24:1-12

I know we are still in the middle of Lent – still walking the path of the cross – so it may be premature to speak on the resurrection here. And yet, I found something very interesting about this passage while reading it: the skepticism of the disciples about the resurrection. Now, I know, that doesn't seem

surprising – especially amidst our modern culture of cynicism. BUT – consider this: the disciples are usually characterized as open to miracles! At one point, some of Jesus' (more superficial) followers kept asking him for “more signs” ... But on this occasion, the disciples need to be persuaded!

The resurrection is the central hope of the Christian faith, but the church did not come to believe it easily (even when Jesus showed them the blueprints beforehand). And that got me thinking ... what is something that *you* usually are open to about God “on paper” (as they say), but in reality you need to be persuaded about? His love? His provision? His power? His coming again? The “show me” attitude of the disciples fits well with the modern spirit.

Here are some relevant ways to apply this:

- 1) *In our witness*, we should be less surprised when people stumble over the saving death and resurrection of Jesus. After all, the disciples hurdle it only after much persuasion (including Jesus' own appearances). We should therefore *exercise patience* as we share this hope with others. Imagine what Jesus may have felt like when he shared the hope of eternal life during his ministry and all he got back were strange looks!
- 2) Luke wants us to ponder the “so what” of Jesus' resurrection – that Jesus is alive and offers forgiveness so that I can have the new relationship with God through him. Think about it ... If I can't fully believe the resurrection in my heart (beyond “on paper”) then I will have trouble believing other essential things about God.
- 3) For believers, the resurrection is a reminder that new life is a gift from God that *calls us to a walk of gratitude*. Look at the difference it makes in *each* of the parties who see and believe – first the women, then some of the disciples, then Thomas, then the two on the road to Emmaeus – contrasted with the way they walked before – in doubt and fear, not gratitude and hope.

Wherever you are in your faith, Luke's account tells us it's *not enough* to be like Peter – to see the graveclothes (the “wrappings” of what God has done) and then go away “wondering what has happened” (Luke 24:12). If the “empty clothes” – whatever they are in your life right now – picture the fact that death is not the end but a transition, *what's going to happen to us next?* We are accountable to God for what we do in life. And so, the resurrection is not just a lofty doctrine, it may well be the most practical truth of all, because it affects EVERYTHING else. May the words God speaks to us never “seem like nonsense” (24:11), but the way to hope. So, ask yourself: “Am I ready for Easter?”

~ Pastor Brian

"Musical Notes"

**"Because I rescued the poor who cried for help,
and the fatherless who had none to assist them.**

The one who was dying blessed me;

***I made the widow's heart sing."* Job 29:12-13**

We sing when we are praising, when we are happy or sad. Music has a way of letting us express in ways spoken words cannot. It is good to sing. It is the voice that God gave YOU, personally, so give it back to him in song! This scripture reminds me of March 1981 when my grandfather, in his last days of life at 98 years young, sang Polish songs of praise to God from his hospital bed in our home. I remember how those words and notes came sailing through the house; how it was his way of praying in his last hours. He gave all the breath he had.

Let the Lord know how you feel in your singing!

Lorraine Menk, Choir Director



Spring Is around the Corner So Start your Mowers

As we look forward to the spring, we are also reminded that means that the grass will soon be growing. As always is the case, we are looking for mowers to volunteer to help. The maintenance of our grounds at the church and cemetery are not just limited to mowing. We appreciate anyone who likes to push a mower, ride a mower, trim around, mulch around and pull weeds. These are all ongoing spring, summer and fall jobs. The nice thing is they comply very well with Covid 19 protocols. You will find yourself in the fresh and certainly more than 6 feet away from everyone. What could be healthier? If you would be interested

in helping with any of these tasks this coming season, please contact Kelly at the church office or call Vince Appleman at 412-793-8574.

Daniel Plan Life Group – facilitated by Alice Knopfel. The nature of this group is one of prayer, praise, motion and fitness. It's about more than a little exercise to uplifting music. It's about stewardship of our bodies for God's purposes. *The Daniel Plan* is an innovative approach to achieving a healthy lifestyle where people get together by optimizing their health in the key areas of faith, fitness, focus and friends. This group will likely start in mid to late March. Please contact Alice Knopfel with interest (so we can get a participant guide for you) and any questions – 412-400-9463.



PLEASE MAKE NOTE OF THE FOLLOWING FOR HOLY WEEK!



- The palms both will be available on Palm Sunday in worship as well as in a bucket outside the side entrance door for those who can't yet worship in person.
- Join us Maundy Thursday (April 1) at 7:00 PM as we remember the institution of the Lord's Supper.
- We are extending an invitation for worshipers to join us for Easter Sunrise service (April 4) at 7:00 AM behind Faith Hall (inside Faith Hall if inclement weather) - dress appropriately for the weather. We encourage people to take advantage of this service to help keep the 10 AM attendance within a safe range.
- For those planning on coming to the 10 AM Easter service, *please contact the church office* (phone or email) and let us know so we can monitor our social distancing.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 10:00 AM Worship	1 Meals on Wheels 10:00 AM Men's Group 10:30 AM Card Ministry 6:00 PM Worship Team Meeting 6:30 PM Upkeep Meeting	2 6:00 PM Girl Scout Troop 20130 8:00 PM N.A. meeting	3 Meals on Wheels 6:00 PM Girl Scout Troop 26605 6:30 PM Deacons Meeting 7:00 PM Spiritual Gifts Small Group	4 5:30 PM Girl Scouts 26234 6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	5 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED 	6 8:30 AM Crafting Circle
7  10:00 AM Worship	8 Meals on Wheels 10:00 AM Men's Group 6:30 PM Seneca Service Unit Leader Meeting	9 1:00 PM Bracken Bible Study 6:30 PM Session Meeting 8:00 PM N.A. meeting	10 Meals on Wheels 6:00 PM Women's Bible Study 7:00 PM Spiritual Gifts Small Group	11 5:30 PM Girl Scouts 26234 6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	12 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	13 8:00 AM Lifeline Screening
14 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM Congregational Meeting  	15 Meals on Wheels 10:00 AM Men's Group 5:30 PM MS Group Meeting	16 6:00 PM Girl Scout Troop 20130 7:00 PM Sewing Guild 8:00 PM N.A. meeting	17 Meals on Wheels 6:00 PM Girl Scout Troop 26605 7:00 PM Spiritual Gifts Small Group 	18 5:30 PM Girl Scouts 26234 6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	19 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	20 Officer Orientation??? 
21  Ordination/Installation of Officers 10:00 AM Worship	22 Meals on Wheels 10:00 AM Men's Group	23 1:00 PM Bracken Bible Study 8:00 PM N.A. meeting	24 Meals on Wheels 6:00 PM Women's Bible Study 7:00 PM Spiritual Gifts Small Group	25 6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	26 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	27
28 10:00 AM Worship 	29 Meals on Wheels 10:00 AM Men's Group 4:30 PM Discipleship Team Meeting	30 8:00 PM N.A. meeting	31 Meals on Wheels 6:00 PM Girl Scout Troop 26605 7:00 PM Spiritual Gifts Small Group	1 	2 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED 	3

