

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

february

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-Scrip^{ts}
a monthly publication



Pastor's Corner

This past month I went snow tubing on the slopes at Boyce park not once but TWICE (so *there* anyone who thinks I'm too old for such stuff – ok, honestly I may just be saying that to myself). The more recent was with the youth group, when even though it was only 20° F. and it was actually *snowing*, they had their snowmakers blowing fabricated snow into the air over the slopes, so it was, well, “a bit much” someone would say, but we had fun. The time before that – a great test run for the youth outing – I went with my daughter, Renee, and future son-in-law, Michael, who visited the first week of January. It was a delight. Michael had never seen snow, let alone ridden down it at 20 mph! Seeing a 6 foot, 220+lb. man laugh like a child was glorious. There is a perfect word for it … joy. It reminded me of a quote by C.S. Lewis (don’t worry, it’s a short one): “One day you will be old enough to start reading fairy tales again.” Of course, the context of his words implies that we can sometimes wall ourselves off to the wonder of the world with very “adult-ish” things and what we think is an “adult-ish” way of thinking.

And sometimes we can be confused by the Bible because on the one hand Jesus says that we must have the faith of a child if we are to receive the kingdom of God (Mark 10:15) … but Paul also tells us in his letters (1 Corinthians 13:11 and Ephesians 4) that we are not to remain little children (spiritually) but to grow to maturity. So, what’s the “aspect” of *child-like* faith that we are to keep, even as we leave *child-ish* ways behind us? Many great Christian teachers have offered insight – it could mean: 1) the kind of reliance, trust, and dependence on God that children have on their adult family members, 2) the kind of humility that is often displayed by little children, 3) the kind of fluid creative imagination children often display almost effortlessly in contrast to the “hardened” ways of adult thinking. Of course, it is likely a combination of these things, but the one I’d like to focus on here, is the sense of “wonder” at God’s world.

Children are more tapped into this kind of joy. Little children have a kind of refreshing “indifference” to *worldly* things (power, influence, money, security). They are far more interested – and *can see much more clearly* – the fingerprints of the divine in the world around them. They are more suited and ready to celebrate this overflowing goodness that is spilling over from God’s creative hands all the time. Michael had tapped into this kind of joy. Lewis, somewhere else, said that being ‘humble’ isn’t about thinking less about yourself … it’s about getting to the point where you don’t really think about yourself at all … because you’re fully in the moment and enjoying the people and circumstances around you with no ulterior motive … A child has not yet “learned” to discover the importance of herself. Oh, to forego that as long as possible! This kind of humility – not worrying about yourself but fully present to what God is doing – is what leads to joy. What’s the use of *pride or position* to a child; they want to get on with the ‘business’ of experiencing the wonders around them, for all their worth – this is the best kind of warm up for worship in my opinion. And this is the frame of mind I desire for all of us at Puckety as we go about our stated mission this year to “Honor God (*joyfully*), Grow in faith (*joyfully*), and improve our world (*joyfully*).”

~ 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 X (formerly 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!



The Puckety Praise Band is looking to extend an invitation to any drummers, guitarists, vocalists, or other musicians who want to dedicate their talents to the Lord for Sunday morning services and Thursday evening rehearsals! Come join us Thursday evening at 6:00pm in the Sanctuary if you or someone you know might be interested THEY DO NOT HAVE TO BE MEMBERS - please see Pastor Brian, Jesse Oddis, or any member of the Puckety Praise Team for more info.

From the Hearts and Hands of Session

We'd like to share two things that have developed under the Session's consideration. In addition to the joyful reception of Matilda Lakshmanan and Jacob & Suzanna McCann during worship on Jan. 11th – we have rescheduled the service time for ***Corinna Hackman, and Daniel O'Neil*** ... to be received into membership through baptismal renewal and affirmation of faith - on Sunday February 15th. We encourage ALL our members and friends to join us on Feb. 15th for this occasion and to give praise to God for his calling and our adoption into God's family.

The second thing we want to highlight again is the special collection for our missionary partners at **MUST**. Matt Wehrle did an excellent job summarizing the history of our partnership and their current needs. If you weren't able to worship with us on 1/18, please check the service out on our Facebook page. There is one week left for the special collection, and please ***remember*** - the Session decided that we would *match* the amount given by members up to Feb. 8th with an *equal amount from the Reserve Fund*. Here are a few words from MUST's director, David Lian:

"The Lord has been our strength and sustainer in every season. We humbly ask for your continued prayers regarding several pressing needs:

- The students' kitchen structure is leaning and creaking, and the dining tables also require urgent repairs to ensure safety. Another building is leaking, and the supporting pillars have deteriorated significantly.
- Transportation - Our truck is in need of a new engine and gearbox to remain operational.
- We are in need of more space. The Lord continues to bring more people into our midst. However, our current facilities are overcrowded, and we earnestly pray for provision to accommodate the growing number of students, children, and ministry activities.

Puckety's faithful support and fervent prayers over the years have been a tremendous blessing to us. We continually thank God for you, for being a vessel of His love and generosity in our lives and ministry." So, recalling the kind of love the Apostle spoke of in his Epistles (2 Corinthians), commending the generosity of believers in one region to support and care for the Church found in another region, let us continue to be a faithful partner.

Youth Group

We continued what has now become a tradition - our annual trip to Boyce Park for snowtubing - we had a dozen kids (+ 3 "grown-up kids") on January 18th. What a blast! We are hoping to host a fun 2/6/26 "Lock-in" event, starting with a trip to Sky Zone to help tire the kids out a bit so it's more likely for them to abide by the "lights out" at midnight mandate. Also, we are planning on repeating our sponsorship for the AVAC Bowling for Blessings fundraiser (on March 1st) - everyone who wants to be on our Puckety team, please let Pastor Brian know ASAP as reservations are due by February 8th at the latest - \$10 for youth student members and \$20 for others from the congregation.





01 Mick Dober
08 Vince Appleman
15 Jennifer McKay
18 Mira Whalen
22 Maria Schafer

Your Session:

Deb Artman – Clerk
Jolene Kostelansky
Mick Dober
Kelly Kapelewski
Marilyn Crumley
Alice Knopfel
Maria Schafer
Sandy Schafer
Chuck West
Matt Wehrle

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!

Your Deacons:

Sandra Ankney
Pat Fish
John McAllister
Cecil McCutcheon
Donna Jeffries
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



Do you have a key to the church that you do not use or only use once a year? Perhaps you were given a key for a committee that you are no longer on? If you have one, please turn it into the office. Our key supply has dwindled and instead of having new keys made, we would like to recirculate keys not currently being used. **THANK YOU!**



Pastor:
Reverend Brian Kilbert

Administrative Secretary:
Kelly Kapelewski

Bookkeeper:
Debra Artman

Choir Director:
Lorraine Menk

Music Ministry Specialist:
Jesse Oddis

Housekeeper:
Irene Nelson

Financial Secretary:
Judy West

Offering Counters:

01: Janet Karan & Jolene Kostelansky
08: Chuck & Judy West
15: Jolene Kostelansky & Sophia Earhart
or Matt Wehrle
22: Helen Crissman & Marilyn Crumley

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.



For those of you that don't know, we have a lost and found box in the library. There are MANY items in this box. Including a set of keys, beautiful leather bound devotionals and glasses! Check it out if you are missing something.



The Bible readings are from "Book of Common Worship"

Week of:

February 1:

Micah 6:1-8

Psalm 15

1 Cor 1:18-31

Matthew 5:1- 12

February 8:

Isa 58:1-9a

Psalm 112:1-9

1 Cor 2:1-12

Matthew 5:13-20

February 15:

Ex 24:12-18

Psalm 2

2 Peter 1:16-21

Matthew 17:1-9

February 22:

Genesis 2:15-17

Psalm 32

Romans 5:12-19

Matthew 4:1-11



Please consider joining any of our Ministry Teams here at Puckety Church!

Outreach – Matt Wehrle

Discipleship – Chari Burtner

Praise Team (Band) – Jesse Oddis

Choir – Lorraine Menk

Fellowship and Care – Charlene McKay

Worship – Jennifer McKay

Upkeep – Vince Appleman

AV Team – Wiebke Kilbert

Youth Group Volunteers – Pastor Brian Kilbert

Pulpit Assistants – Kelly Kapelewski



Special Collection for MUST

We want to make sure you all know about a special collection we are doing for our missionary partners in Myanmar (Myanmar Undergraduate School of Theology). Our Session decided to promote a **4-week collection** for their most urgent needs **to Feb. 8th** – you can give during Sunday worship (designate "MUST" on the memo line of your check) or if you give electronically, there is a special category just for "MUST" via our website.

These are some of the pressing needs communicated by our liaison, David Lian:

- The students' *kitchen* structure is leaning and requires urgent repairs. An *additional building* has deteriorating pillars that require repair.
- *Transportation* needs - our truck is in need of a new engine and gearbox to remain operational.
- We are in need of *more space*. The Lord continues to bring more people, so our facilities are overcrowded; we earnestly pray for provision to accommodate the growing number of students, children, and ministry activities.

[For a fuller list/details, contact Matt Wehrle or Pastor Brian]. Recalling the love the Apostle Paul spoke of in his Epistles, commanding the generosity of believers in one region to support and care for the Church found in another region, let us continue to be a faithful partner.



2 Angela Goodwin

Karen Marshall

4 Jacob McCann

5 Wiebke Kilbert

6 Brian Kostek

7 Kirk Orr

8 Dan O'Neil

9 Jodi Piernik

Darlene Miller

10 Rodney Schafer

12 Hunter Sisco

15 Mark Nelson

26 James Heasley

27 Christina Logan

28 Kristine Schafer

Jack Katona

Lois Barnett



DONATIONS CURRENTLY BEING ACCEPTED

BY ORIGINS:

All items need to be **NEW AND UNOPENED!**

- Diapers
- Pull-Ups/Training Pants
- Baby Wipes
- Baby Soaps
- Baby Shampoos
- Baby Lotions
- Diaper Rash Ointment
- Formula
- Baby Food
- Toddler Food
- Pedialyte
- Baby and Kids Hygiene Items
- Feminine Hygiene Products
- Breastfeeding Supplies
- Sensitive/Baby Friendly Laundry Detergent

"Determined to be the heart, voice, and hands of God making a difference in our Community"

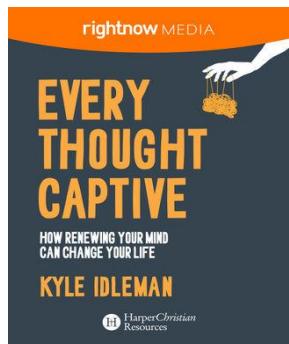
The 2026 schedule is up for Origins on the big bulletin board. If you have volunteered in the past please check the schedule and verify if the dates you are listed for will work for you. If not please see if any of the other volunteers would be able to switch with you and make the adjustment on the sheet. We are always looking for new volunteers so please reach out to Wiebke if you are interested in volunteering on one of the days listed.



There are many more details about the items listed in the library! Please take a moment to read the list and jot down what you might like to donate so when you shop, you know just what to look for 😊! Remember you can donate those over the counter no cost Medicare items that you may not need if they are on the list! If you are not on Medicare, Origins would greatly appreciate any donations of the specific items requested.



AV Team: In the spring of this year the AV Team will be saying goodbye to a valuable member that has helped us with Zoom and Worship slide creation and presentation. To continue to function well and not overtask the other AV members we need to bring in and train additional volunteers for ALL positions: Zoom, Slide Creation, Slide Presentation and Critically the Sound team. These are all behind the scenes opportunities that are critical for worship each Sunday not just in house but also for our Zoom and Facebook users, many of whom are homebound and cannot join us. This is your personal ask to consider joining the team or at least come by and shadow what we do to see if you can help us in any of these positions. Please see Wiebke with any questions.



***Take Every Thought Captive!** The Schafer's invite you to join their small group – using RightNow Media's *Every Thought Captive* (with Kyle Idleman): *How Renewing Your Mind Can Change Your Life*. Are your thoughts leading you toward transformation or conformity? Are they building you up or tearing you down? We will explore a topic crucial for spiritual growth: the battle for your mind. God can transform your life as you learn to take every thought captive and submit it to the truth of his Word. The group will meet at Maria & Rodney's home, and will *meet every other Monday through March*. Please contact Maria to sign up or ask questions - 412-377-8113.

Events

February 15th – during Worship we will receive two new members: through the Sacrament of Baptism: *Corinna Hackman*. And one will be received through public affirmation of faith: *Daniel O’Neil*.

Ash Wednesday (*Feb. 18th*) at 7:00 PM – in addition to the imposition of ashes to begin the Lenten journey toward the cross, we may also observe Holy Communion as a sign of forgiveness and the life we have in Christ.

March 22nd – Congregational Meeting for the Election of Officers

March 29th – Palm Sunday – please join us as we follow Jesus into the story of Holy Week. Please note the schedule of Holy Communion for Holy Week and the month of April:

Maundy Thursday (April 2nd at 7:00 PM) – observing the institution of the Lord’s Supper

April 12th (2nd Sunday of Easter at 10:00 AM) in lieu of first Sun. Communion

A Devotional for You – Read ***1 Corinthians 1:10-13 ... AND 1 Corinthians 12:12-20***

Many of you know that we are now in a sermon series on Paul’s first letter to the Corinthians. I wanted to share something in my first sermon but there wasn’t space, and since it is also connected to the portion of the letter where we may end the series, I think it would fit perfectly here, because it connects the themes of unity and the church as the Body of Christ. Using the analogy of the human body, there are some diseases that can spread infection throughout the body of Christ. The mind can become swollen with pride. The heart can grow cold and indifferent because of sin. The digestive system can get clogged by sterile theory and unapplied theology, so the body can’t digest what needs to be turned into energy or eliminate what needs to be released. When that occurs, we start to fight among ourselves, or we lose our equilibrium and find ourselves unable to stay balanced.

Paul Brand writes this in his book, *Fearfully and Wonderfully Made* (try to discern the spiritual connections in the life of the church): “Sometimes a dreaded thing occurs in the body – a mutiny - resulting in a tumor. A tumor is called benign if its effect is fairly localized and it stays within its membrane boundaries. But the most traumatizing condition in the body occurs when disloyal cells defy inhibition. They multiply without any checks on growth, spreading rapidly throughout the body, choking out normal cells. White cells, armed against foreign invaders, will not attack the body’s own mutinous cells. Physicians fear no other malfunction more deeply: it is called cancer. For still mysterious reasons, these cells grow wild, out of control. In a way, each is a “fully-functioning” cell, but disloyal, no longer acting in regard for the rest of the body. Even the white cells, the dependable palace guard, can destroy the body through rebellion. Sometimes they recklessly reproduce, clogging the bloodstream, strangling the body’s normal functions.

Because I am a surgeon – not a prophet – I tremble to make the analogy between cancer in the physical body and mutiny in the spiritual body of Christ. But I must. In his warnings to the church (both in the Gospels and in the early chs. of Revelation), Jesus was not worried about the shocks and bruises His Body would meet from external forces – “the gates of hell shall not prevail against my Church” (Matthew 16:18) – but He cried out against the kind of disloyalty that comes from within (Matthew 24:5, 10-13; Rev. 3:1-3, 17-19). As a result, few doctrines are more important than this one – our unity in Christ. Because the church is under constant attack, we cannot afford a civil war in our own spiritual body. Because we are fellow members of this vital spiritual organism, we need to apply ourselves to mutual harmony. And because disease can diminish the effectiveness of the body, we must maintain habits (personal and collective disciplines) for health, and a consistent program of “exercise” in harmony with God’s healthcare for us.

Pastor Brian



Veteran-to-Veteran Volunteer Program

Recently I spoke to a young man, Matt Neubart, who is passionate about connecting veterans in our community with veterans in hospice care – he explained how they have an ability to engage and support that others don't really have the common experience to mimic, because of the unique bond.

This is an appeal to the veterans in our church community to consider helping:

- *Provide meaningful companionship to fellow veterans
- *Offer emotional support through shared military experience
- *Help ensure no veteran faces their final moments alone.

Your time, presence and understanding can bring peace and dignity to another veteran's life. Please contact

Matthew Neubart email: mneubart@monarchhospice.net or call 412-527-2940.



**Upright piano looking for a home.
Free!
Interested persons can discuss transport
from our home to yours.**

Mick and Beth Dober



Set of 2 recliners available! They are large. They are free. Matt Wehrle will transport, but whoever wants them will need to get a couple able bodies to move them into a house. Contact Matt Wehrle if you are interested.



Exclusive Member Offer: Save on Life Line Screening

We have great news! Our Puckety Church will be hosting a Life Line Screening event on March 12. Life Line Screening is the premier provider of stroke and cardiovascular disease risk screenings since 1993. Life Line Screening is extending a discounted offer to all Puckety Church members which will identify your risk level for the following diseases:

1. Carotid Artery Disease
2. Peripheral Arterial Disease
3. Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm
4. Atrial Fibrillation



Go to www.llsa.social/habc or call 800-324-9458 to schedule your appointment! A simple screening can be worth a lifetime.



Join us for our Annual Soup and Sandwich Luncheon hosted by the Fellowship and Care Team on 2/15/26 after Worship. This is a nice way to warm up and fellowship mid-winter with your fellow parishioners as well as to meet our newest members!



Please note the schedule of Holy Communion for Holy Week and the month of April:
Maundy Thursday (April 2nd at 7:00 PM)- observing the institution of the Lord's Supper
April 12th (2nd Sunday of Easter at 10:00 AM)- in lieu of first Sunday Communion

February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:00am Worship 11:30am Women's Bible Study 6:00pm Youth Group	2  Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group 12:00pm AA Meeting 6:00pm Upkeep Team Meeting 6:30pm McCann Small Group	3 6:00pm Girl Scout Troop 20130 6:30pm Outreach Team Meeting 8:00pm N.A. meeting	4 Meals on Wheels 6:00pm Deacons Meeting 6:30pm Discipleship Essentials 6:30pm Girl Scout Troop 52527	5 6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	6 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED 5:20pm Youth Group Outing/Lock-In	7 Youth Group Pick Up 2:00pm Hilbeck Birthday Party
8 10:00am Worship	9 Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group 12:00pm AA Meeting 6:00pm Schafer Small Group 6:30pm McCann Small Group 7:00pm Seneca Service Unit Leader Meeting	10 5:00pm Origins Outreach 5:30pm Girl Scout Troop 46799 6:00pm Girl Scout Troop 20834 6:00pm Session Meeting 8:00pm N.A. meeting	11 Meals on Wheels 6:30pm Discipleship Essentials	12 1:00pm Meals 4 Children Food Packing 6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	13 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	14  10:00am Soup and Sandwich Prep
15  10:00am Worship 11:00am Prayer Walking  11:30am Women's Bible Study 6:00pm Youth Group	16 Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group 12:00pm AA Meeting 4:45pm Discipleship Team Meeting 6:30pm McCann Small Group 	17 6:00pm Girl Scout Troop 20130 8:00pm N.A. meeting	18 Meals on Wheels 6:30pm Girl Scout Troop 52527 	19 6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Worship Service	20 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	21
22 10:00am Worship 6:00pm Youth Group	23 Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group 10:30am Card Ministry 12:00pm AA Meeting 6:00pm Schafer Small Group 6:30pm McCann Small Group	24 5:30pm Girl Scout Troop 46799 6:00pm Girl Scout Troop 20834 6:00pm Worship Team Meeting 8:00pm N.A. meeting	25 Meals on Wheels 6:30pm Discipleship Essentials	26 1:00pm Meals 4 Children Food Packing 6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	27 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	28



Lent Word Search

E N S K F O R G I V E N E S S O O D F G
R O A W L Y K E R U S L O R Y I M B A I
P I S K R M E N O I X H E N A S H E S K
E X O E A Y K A R S S O R C D W A T T R
N B L E S A L N I K A L K E Y D E R I O
A S H W E D N E S D A Y O D T U D F N S
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D I S H I M K S L E M R E M B I P E R O
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C J E R O A S C G O O D F R I D A Y S T
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U R S P E D R I L A T Y A J R E T S A E
C U S Y L E C F E L S O P E G O E Y C R
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I A R W E E K C R A J E R U H E G O F U
S L A Y A R T E B O S D I S C I P L E S
H E S A C T M O W S U R H O L P A N K E
A M B P E N R E I M E C N A T N E P E R

Word Bank

ASHES	DESERT	GOOD FRIDAY	PENANCE
ASH WEDNESDAY	DISCIPLES	HOLY THURSDAY	PRAYER
BETRAYAL	EASTER	HOLY WEEK	REPENTANCE
BLESS	FASTING	JERUSALEM	RESURRECTION
CROSS	FORGIVENESS	JESUS	RISEN
CRUCIFIXION	FOURTY DAYS	PALM SUNDAY	SACRIFICE