

Puckety Presbyterian Church

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

May 2016

Post-Scripts
a monthly publication

What is Pentecost?

For Christians, Pentecost is a holiday on which we commemorate the coming of the Holy Spirit on the early followers of Jesus. Before the events of the first Pentecost, which came a few weeks after Jesus' death and resurrection, there were followers of Jesus, but no movement that could be meaningfully called "the church." Thus, from an historical point of view, Pentecost is the day on which the church was started. This is also true from a spiritual perspective, since the Spirit brings the church into existence and enlivens it. Thus Pentecost is the church's birthday.

What actually happened on that day of Pentecost?

This event is recorded in the New Testament book known as The Acts of the Apostles. Chapter 2 begins,



“And when the day of Pentecost had come, [the first followers of Jesus] were all together in one place” (2:1). All of a sudden, a sound came from heaven, like a strong wind, filling the house where the people had gathered. Something like tongues of fire rested on their heads. “And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit gave them the ability to speak” (2:4). (Notice the tongues of fire on the heads of the people in the painting by Restout.)

The languages spoken by the early Christians were intelligible (not other worldly) and were heard by thousands of Jewish pilgrims who had come to Jerusalem to celebrate *Shavuot*. The content of the miraculous messages had to do with God's mighty works (2:11). Many who heard these messages in their own languages were amazed, though others thought the Christians were just drunk (2:12).

At some point, Peter, one of the leading followers of Jesus, stood up and preached his first sermon. He interpreted the events of that morning in light of a prophecy of the Hebrew prophet Joel. In that text, God promised to pour out his Spirit on all flesh, empowering diverse people to exercise divine power. This would be a sign of the coming “day of the Lord” (Acts 2:16-21; Joel 2:28-32).

Peter went on to explain that Jesus had been raised and had poured out the Spirit in fulfillment of God's promise through Joel (2:32-33). When the crowd asked what they should do, Peter urged them to turn their lives around and be baptized in the name of Jesus. Then they would be forgiven and would receive the gift of the Holy Spirit (2:37-39). Acts reports that about 3,000 people were added to the church that day (2:41). Not a bad response to Peter's first sermon!

How do Christians celebrate Pentecost?

As you might expect, there are a wide range of Christian celebrations of Pentecost. Some churches do not recognize the holiday at all. Most churches at least mention it in prayer, song, or sermon. Some churches go all out, with worship focused on remembering the first Pentecost and praying for a similar outpouring of divine power.

Churches that employ liturgical colors generally use red on Pentecost as a symbol of power and fire of the Spirit. Some churches receive new members on Pentecost, thus commemorating the first “new members class” that joined the church after Peter’s Pentecost sermon. Centuries ago in Britain, those joining the church wore white for baptism. Thus the Sunday was called “White Sunday” or “Whitsunday.”



Attention Ladies: If you are a woman, and you eat lunch after church, and think you might enjoy the chance to get to know other women from Puckety, then consider joining us at Villa Ballanca in Lower Burrell on the 4th Sunday of each month! Anyone who is interested meets inside the entrance to the restaurant. It's a fun time of conversation and fellowship! If you've never joined us, consider trying it! Questions?? Contact Rebecca Fisher at 412.260.1571 or rfisher@syfcomputing.com



The Board of Deacons met on April 6, 2016 and our meeting was opened with prayer.

OLD BUSINESS:

Sandy Ankney is including a note of encouragement to 13 college students who will receive a \$25 gift card to Walmart. We have found this to be an effective way to touch base with those away at college to let them know we think and pray for them.

New doilies for the communion plates are in the process of being created.

NEW BUSINESS:

Deacons received a request for help with an electric bill. We agreed on \$50 made payable to West Penn Power.

A request was received from a daughter of a member of Puckety Church who no longer drives but would like to come to church, Tuesday Bible study, or share a fellowship time of reading the Bible.

Mother's Day gifts will continue to be crafted on April 13th and if needed on April 20th at 6 PM at the church under Jenn Motosicky's expertise. Father's Day gifts have been ordered and received.

We will continue to order 50 large print editions of “Our Daily Bread.” The Easter version was well received, and there may be enough for next year.

Our next meeting is our highly anticipated pot luck dinner. New members will be welcomed at this time and given a brief tour of where our supplies are stored and shown where the essential pieces for preparing communion are kept. It is also a time to thank those going off of Deacons for their time of service to the congregation of Puckety Church.



The Bible readings are from
"Book of Common Worship"

For the week of:

May 1:

Acts 16:9-15
Psalm 67
Revelations 21:10;21:22-25:5
John 14:23-29

May 8:

Acts 16:16-34
Psalm 97
Revelations 22:12-14, 16-17
John 17:20-26

March 17:

Isaiah 43:16-21
Psalms 126
Phil. 3:4b-14
John 12:1-8

May 15:

Acts 2:1-21
Psalm 104:24-34
Romans 8:14-17
John 14:8-17 (25-27)

May 22:

Prov. 8:1-4, 22-31
Psalm 8
Romans 5:1-5
John 16:12-15

May 29:

1 Kings 18:20-21
Psalm 96
Gal. 1:1-12
Luke 7:1-10

Discipleship Update...

*Graduate Recognition will take place Sunday June 12th. Any information to be shared during that time (pictures for power point, future plans, etc.) should be e-mailed to Rebecca Fisher (at rfisher@syfcomputing.com) not later than Sunday June 5th.

*Our VBS this year is called "Deep Sea Discovery" and it runs from Monday June 20th -Friday June 24th from 6:00-8:15 PM. Any child ages 3 years through completion of 5th grade is welcome to attend! See the separate page for ways you can help with VBS if you're interested!

* We are praying for a person who is feeling called to be a middle school Youth Church teacher.

*Ladies Lunch started back up in April.



Amen Corner is being showcased at Latrobe Country Club during the 16th Annual Scholarship Golf Outing to benefit Pine Springs Camp!

The way this will work is that they will choose a prominent place on the course to advertise the support of churches who make a donation of \$100 or more to support the Golf Outing. The sign at the back of our sanctuary will be displayed as an awesome visual to the 125 plus golfers who will be playing that day! We encourage you to place your donation in the container – checks, bills, loose change, etc. – then write your name or a message on the sign. Last year the Golf Outing raised over \$20,000 with this event! Please consider a donation and thank you for any and ALL support.

What: Deep Sea Discovery Vacation Bible School

Who: Children ages 3 years-5th grade

When: Mon. June 20-Fri. June 24th from 6:00pm-8:15pm



We need YOUR help!

To make our VBS as successful as possible this year, we need:

Crew leaders: They are responsible for taking a group of 5-8 children from station to station. You do not have to teach, just talk with the children in your group, get to know the kids and love them!

Station leaders/helpers: They stay in one place and are responsible for teaching one particular thing, such as our Science experiments and Crafts area (All materials and lessons are provided!), or the Bible Story telling helper-who is responsible to find and make sure that all props and items needed for the person telling the story are in the room and ready for use each day, or the Snack crew-helping to prepare the snack so it's ready to serve when the children arrive.

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.

Decorator: These people would work with others already working on decorating to transform the sanctuary and hallways as well as the Bible Story room into an underwater home for the week of Bible School.

Donation Board Manager: This 1-2 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 1-2 person group is willing to show up the first two nights or VBS and is very willing to just be "around." They understand that they might be asked to serve as a crew leader, or maybe just asked to be a "runner" finding people, or relaying messages, or maybe not need to do a lot. This person or group is not out in front of people but is very important to have when those unexpected situations arise!

The Greeter: This 1-2 person group is asked 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!

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

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS In May

- 1 Beth Dober
- 8 Vince Appleman
- 15 Irene Nelson
- 22 Jenn Motosicky
- 29 Denise Wehrle

Your Session:
Debra Artman
Rebecca Fisher
Matt Wehrle
Sophia Earhart
Kirk Orr
Jolene Kostelansky
Mick Dober
Mike Tatem
Vicki Orr

Corporate Officers:
President: Sophia Earhart
Vice-Pres.: Cliff McKay
Secretary: Michelle Hough
Treasurer: Donna Bracken

THE POWER OF PRAYER!
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
Hilda Maxwell
Denise Wehrle

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor:
Kirk Orr

Director of Youth Ministries:
Brandon Brim

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

- 1 Vicki Orr and Sue Close
- 8 Rebecca Fisher and Matt Wehrle
- 15 Sophia Earhart and Deb Artman
- 22 Jolene Kostelansky and Mick Dober
- 29 Mike Tatem and Vicki Orr

Counters:

- 1 Jolene Kostelansky and Sophia Earhart
- 8 Chari Burtner and Matt Wehrle
- 15 Janet Karan and Deb Artman
- 22 Chuck and Judy West
- 29 Jolene Kostelansky and Sophia Earhart

GRADUATE RECOGNITION



Graduate recognition will be held Sunday June 12. Any pictures or information to be shared on that Sunday needs to be given or emailed to Rebecca Fisher by Sunday June 5th.

Why not think about attending a fun filled few days or a



week at our wonderful Christian summer camp in Jennerstown, PA! Camps are offered for the very young with a guardian and for the young elementary through high schoolers! For more information check out their website!

www.pinesprings.org

Puckety Church has scholarships available.

NEW FURNACES NEEDED FOR FAITH HALL

The Upkeep Team was recently advised that our 36 year old furnaces in Faith Hall are more than ready to make the trip to "Furnace Heaven", and actually should have died years ago. We have received an 'at cost" bid for two 95% efficient furnaces in the amount of \$5,200.00. This is an amazing price! However, this was not a budgeted expenditure. We do not have savings that will cover this amount. Therefore, Puckety Session is requesting that all who are reading this notice will make this need A MATTER OF PRAYER. If, when you are seeking the Lord about this need, you feel led to give a gift that is in addition to what you currently contribute to Puckety Church, please designate it for the "Furnace Fund".

Thank you in advance for your prayerful response!
Puckety Session

Blessings On Your Birthday!!!

- 1 Morgan Girard
- 2 Dean Hurlbut
Carolyn (Serene) Stanley
- 3 Joy Burd
Jean Morrow
- 4 Jessica Yohe
Jolene Kostelansky
- 5 Kayla Johnston
- 8 John Nelson
- 9 Scott Johnson
- 10 Gene Dunkel
John Matisko
- 11 Vicki Orr
- 12 Vince Appleman
- 13 Matt Wehrle, Jr.
- 14 Ami Zellefrow
- 17 Matthew Johnston
Brittany Meyer
- 18 Braden Serene
- 19 Janet Szalai
Anne Johnson
- 25 Laura Such
- 27 Eleanor Kantorskie
Evan Chen
- 29 Jean Welte
Nancy Ellen Law
- 30 John Wilds
Donna Bracken

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

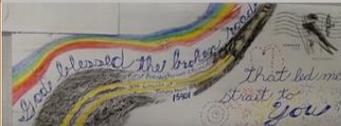


Our sympathy to the friends and family of Paul Yohe who passed away on April 23, 2016.



Stories of Redstone

Christ at work in our midst



Last summer a young man stopped by the church asking if we have a choir because he wanted to join and sing praises to Jesus. He was told yes and invited to come worship with us on Sunday. Not only did he come; he found out where the choir was warming up and joined them.

This friendly young man soon worked his way into our hearts and us into his. Eugene worshiped with us for nearly 6 months, sharing his love for singing and Scripture. Eugene was open about his troubled past and the way the Lord had worked in his life.

In January we were heartbroken to learn that he had been arrested for robbing a local

Family Dollar. One of the active elders went to his preliminary hearing to show him that his church had not turned our back on him. Eugene was visibly overwhelmed to see her. Eugene and members of the congregation frequently correspond with each other while he awaits trial in May.

This is being church.

Jesus has given us the privilege of visiting the prisoner, even if we can only visit by letter. We have all received, grace upon grace.

---First Presbyterian Church, Johnstown

WE WILL NEVER CHANGE THE WORLD BY GOING TO CHURCH. WE WILL ONLY CHANGE THE WORLD BY BEING THE CHURCH.

Communicate the Word... Carry on the Work... Change the World... Together!

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.

Children's Church 10:00 a.m.

Youth Group: 6:00 p.m.

Every Sunday ☺

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