

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.

February 2026

Post-Scripts
a monthly publication

Pastor's Corner

Far be it from me to “bury the lead.” Last month I shared a story about my daughter Renee and her fiancée, Michael. Well ... since that time, he has become her *husband!* They got married on Valentine’s Day (Feb. 14th) – very considerate of Renee to give Michael (and me) an easy way to remember their anniversary. I have been happy to hear how they, over the last four months, have committed themselves to roughly 10 sessions of premarital counseling, been studying Scripture together, and supporting one another in their discipleship to Christ. I smiled as Renee sent me a picture of a rainbow that was in the sky as they left worship at their church the day after their wedding. We know that life will bring many challenges to come; we know that unexpected surprises – many of them costly and inconvenient – will arise. But if we have built “our house” on the rock of Christ and his word, the house will stand the storms (Matthew 5).

We’ve been studying 1 Corinthians together in the sermon series. There are a few chapters we will not get to. One of them is the “love” chapter (ch. 13). Well, since it’s such a common text at weddings, some comments seem appropriate here. The problem with the idea of love is that the 21st century Western notion is quite different than the 1st century Judeo-Christian one. Too many think of it as an emotion-driven thing. For

Jesus, and Paul, it was a “will-driven” thing – more action than feeling. Paul fleshes this out beautifully in 1 Cor. 13:3-8. “Love is patient” (not hot-blooded), “love is kind” ... “it is not self seeking” (not focused on one’s own desires). Paul shows us that basing love on emotions, is like building a sandcastle on the beach. It might look beautiful and solid, but when a high tide rolls in, the sandcastle isn’t (anywhere near) strong enough to hold up, and it washes away. Parents who only love their children when the mood hits them are poor parents. A husband who deserts his wife and children because he finds another woman more attractive has missed the point of marriage (by a wide margin). The problem is, in our society, love is presented as something to be “fallen into” and “fallen out of” ... Hogwash. For many, many reasons. For starters, there is not solution given for what to do when the emotion fails you and the warm fuzzies are gone. In short, you can **recognize worldly love by how unpredictable it is.** And you can **recognize godly love by how sacrificial it is.** If you truly want an in-depth experience of love, start looking to Jesus the moment he enters the Upper Room with his disciples (John 13) and don’t look away ... Keep looking as he washes their feet ... keep looking as he stays awake while we sleep ... keep looking as he diverts the attention of the angry mob so his friends can escape ... keep looking as he allows himself to be arrested and taken into the night. Keep looking while he is tried at night, mocked, beaten, scourged, and finally crucified. I used to wonder why the Church Fathers called that part of Holy Week, Christ’s “Passion.” There is no greater love than sacrifice. That kind of love says I am committed to act in the best interest of this other person regardless of how I feel. It gives without seeking return, and it endures. May God help all of us (Renee & Michael, you & me) to take us beyond the world’s way of loving so we can love others in a totally new dimension, as God does. ~ 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

As Puckety Church, we “honor God” ... we are grateful and excited about how God has been moving over the last couple months – first we had 3 new members join in January (including a baptism), then we had 2 more in February (including another baptism), and now coming in March (on 3/15) – almost like an echo of the triune name used (“in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit), we have approved a third **baptism** in as many months – our own praise team leader: **Jesse Oddis!** In addition, it will be by *full immersion*. Jesse also plans on sharing a testimony, so as this is a powerful way to affirm how we die to sin, are buried with Christ, and raised to new life to walk in holiness and love, we encourage ALL our members and friends to join us on March 15th for this occasion and to give praise to God for his calling and our adoption into God’s family.

As Puckety Church, we “grow in faith.”

The Session is beginning a monthly time of sharpening our vision and leadership using, RightNow Media’s Pastors+ (Developing Leadership in the Church with Eric Geiger). We are called as leaders to spread the **Conviction** (that every member of the church is a disciple-maker and living stone, building up Christ’s work), shape the congregational **Culture** (so that our mission is the dominant mindset affecting our lives, not the unbiblical notion that ministry is for paid staff), and employ **Constructs** (tools and resources that serve Christ’s mission over our comfort zones). This intentional work over the spring and summer is planned to spread through the congregation over the coming months, so that we can all grow in faith, not just devotionally, but as the ambassadors going into the world as salt and light (Matthew 5). In the meantime, we encourage anyone not currently in a small group or Bible study to join one for the months of March and April.

As Puckety Church, we “improve our community and world”

The Session also decided to “round up” the final amount of the special offering for MUST (6,910) to \$7,000 for our missionary partners in Myanmar. For one of the major ways we “honor God” is by participating in Christ’s Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20) to go beyond baptism to making disciples and teaching them to observe Christ’s ways – and MUST is doing that with both the orphans at the primary age level and adults at the theological school, and the pastors/leaders at their daughter churches.

We also encourage everyone to read the information from *Maria Copa* – our Compassion student who has graduated and seeking university classes – update on the outreach bulletin board near corner of the hallway. Please pray for the concerns she mentions.



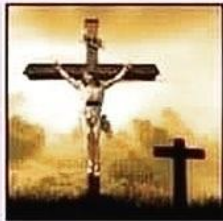
Palm Sunday

Sunday before Easter. Celebration of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Observed with palm branches, parades, and celebration.



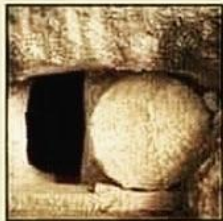
Mauudy Thursday

Thursday before Easter. Commemorates the Last Supper. Often observed with foot washing, stripping of the altar, and overnight prayer vigil to keep watch with Jesus in the garden.



Good Friday

Friday before Easter. Most solemn day of the church year. Observes the day Jesus was crucified. Observed by praying the Stations of the Cross and three hours of silent prayer while Jesus was on the cross.



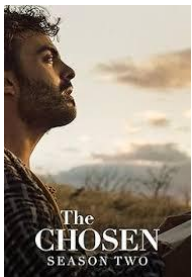
Holy Saturday

Saturday before Easter. Observes the day Jesus was in the tomb. This is a day of somber reflection, reflecting on what we'd miss in a world without Jesus.



Easter Sunday

Hallelujah! Christ has risen! This day we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. Sing hallelujahs and celebrate with great joy.



Jacob and Suzanna McCann will be starting up Season 2 of the Chosen Small Group on Monday, March 2nd at 6:30pm. Anyone is welcome to join. See Jacob or Suzanna or ask the church office if you have any questions.

Please take notice of the banner changes in the front of the sanctuary: "I am the Way the Truth and the Life" - Donated by Deb Artman and the Benish family in loving memory of Theodore Karan, Pearl & Royden Calhoun and "Be Still & Know That I Am God" - Donated by Sophie Earhart in loving memory of her father, Lazo Zorich.



Save the dates! June 22-26th

is Vacation Bible School!

Rainforest Falls: Exploring the Nature of God.

We need all hands and hearts on deck to make this VBS a successful outreach to the children and families in our community! Please start praying for where God can use you and your gifts.

*We are looking for **assistants to help the Station Leaders** (e.g., Pastor Brian needs helpers for Bible Adventure station, etc.)

*The **donation and supply lists** will be up soon - keep a lookout on the hallway bulletin boards!

*One of the biggest needs is always **crew leaders** to help guide the small groups of kids and engage with them at the stations (we need more adults but jr. crew leaders are also helpful – minimum age of 15)

*The Church Office is willing to help all adult volunteers make sure their **state clearances** are up to date

Please contact Emilie (724-882-3709) or Mike Basile (724-994-9833) or email: craneman58598@gmail.com to inquire, volunteer, or help with this community ministry.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER MARCH 6, 2026

On the first Friday in March the Day of Prayer begins on the international dateline, in Samoa. Early in the morning, Christian women begin praying for our world. As the earth rotates, a great wave of prayer begins to build. It sweeps across the Pacific, touching Fiji and New Zealand, rolling on through Asia: Japan, the Philippines, Korea, and Bangladesh. The countries of Africa, and the Middle East are next. The wave reaches the shores of Europe as the day dawns there. Across the Atlantic, it moves onwards, the Caribbean, the Americas, and on to the Pacific again until the sun finally sets over American Samoa where the final service takes place. A worldwide circle of prayer is complete.

come rest, give you I - 2026 Nigeria



- 01 Alice Knopfel
- 08 Keira Manges
- 15 Sophia Earhart
- 22 Michelle Hough
- 29 Chari Burtner

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!**

Your Session:

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



Offering Counters:

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

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!

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



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:

March 1:

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

March 8:

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

March 15:

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

March 22:

Ezek 37:1-14
Psalm 130
Romans 8:6-11
John 11:1-45

March 29:

Matthew 21:1-11
Psalm 118:1-2,19-29
Isaiah 50:4-9a
Phil 2:5-11



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



- 2 Irene Nelson
- 3 Sophia Earhart
- 9 Myrna Zellefrow
- 10 Helen Crissman
- 14 Jason Schwartz
- 21 Lisa Wilson
- 22 Zachery Schafer
- 29 Tim Eckman
- 30 Trevor Hazlett



We welcomed two new members, Dan O’Neil and Corinna Hackman, to Puckety Church on February 15th and Corinna received Holy Baptism.

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.

Events

March 15th – Sacrament of Baptism for Jesse Oddis – “We rejoice with you Jesse! God bless you and your family!”

March 22nd – Congregational Meeting for the Election of Officers

NOTE: **Officer Training** will be scheduled for the morning of one of the following Saturdays: either Sat. April 11th, or Saturday April 18th. **ALL Elected Officers** need to contact Pastor Brian to let him know which mornings they can attend so we can choose the ideal day to have all officers present for the training. Of course, current officers are warmly welcomed to attend too as their experience and insight will be helpful.

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
April 19th – Ordination and Installation of new Officers

A Devotional for You – Read *1 Corinthians 9:19-27*

For various reasons, chapter 9 will be another part of the letter that won't be included in the current sermon series – but we'll be “in that area” about the time you read this. And the end of the chapter brings up that athletic imagery again that finds a lot to connect with in terms of the Winter Olympics (just wrapping up). “One receives the prize – compete in such a way as to obtain (the imperishable crown).” Athletes are willing to push themselves harder and longer and farther than pretty much anyone else. Whether you're into speed skating, figure skating, halfpipe snowboarding, bobsled, skeleton (*crazy people*), slalom, ski jumping, or hockey, if you spent just an hour watching, you can get a feel for the massive amount of time and training and commitment that went into preparing for those few days. They strive to bring their bodies and minds completely under control so that they excel and receive a prize. [*This is where I want you to start imagining the spiritual and Christian mission parallels okay*] ... Others go home to relax, but athletes continue to train. Many, if not most, people try to protect themselves from discomfort, but “athletes” (*insert pastor coughing something that sounds like “disciples”*) push themselves. While some remain satisfied with mediocre performance, athletes pay any price for excellence. But Paul says, despite their most valiant efforts, the athletes' successes are eventually forgotten. This is STILL true even with all the social media and video recording we have.

If an athlete can be motivated to make incredible sacrifices for a perishable reward (yes, even the gold medals will one day be gone), how much more ought Christians strive for an imperishable one? If an athlete will labor day after day in order to receive glory from others, how much harder ought Christians to work for the “well done” of their Master? As Paul says a few verses before, this is why he became “all things to all people, so that by all possible means” he might save some. Henry Blackaby puts it like this in *Experiencing God*: “Are you training your mind to think the thoughts of God? Are you disciplining your life in prayer? Have you studied God's word so diligently that you are prepared to find answers to the challenges you face? Have you equipped yourself in evangelism and disciple-making so that you are ready to share your faith and nurture the faith of others? Have you prepared yourself in order to qualify for the imperishable crown that awaits you?” (*Experiencing God Day-By-Day*, 189)

Pastor Brian



"Adding LIFE to days, when days cannot be added to lives."

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**



The Deacons will be collecting names of local families in need of a Food Basket for Easter.

Pick-up will be Saturday, March 28th 9:30 - 10:30am.
Please email or call the church office or drop off a note!

Sponsors Name/Number: _____

Family Receiving Food
Name/Number/Address: _____

Number of Adults: _____ Number of Children (& ages, if known): _____

AV schedule

Date	Presentation Creation	Presenter	Sound	Zoom host
3/1/26	Matt	Matt	Nate	Beth
3/8/26	Jenn	Joyce	Zach	Deb
3/15/26	Wiebke	Joyce	Nate	Deb
3/22/26	Beth	Beth	Rodney	Deb
3/29/26	Brian	Joyce	Zach	Deb

May your troubles be less,
And your blessing be more.
And nothing but happiness,
Come through your door.

Irish Blessing



YOUTH GROUP: We had 10 kids join us for the first overnight Lock-in we've had in years (2/6/26)! It was a great time. We started with a trip to Sky Zone – a 2-hour jump time to help tire the kids out. We returned for pizza and other food (they took down 4 pizzas). And proceeded to some of their favorite games (like Alien). We had a prayer time and “lights out” around 12:30 (ish). It got pretty cold in the night though, so we plan on doing next year's in APRIL! My thanks again to Karen Marshall, Nate Manges, and Jennifer Schwartz for leading at various points in the night. We are doing the AVAC Bowling for Blessings fundraiser (on March 1st) – so by the time you read this, our group will have already knocked down some strikes and spares to raise money for our community. We continue RightNow Media's Essentials of Faith, currently learning from Ben Stuart about “Why We Go to Church?” It's not too late to plug in for some spring quarter fun. High schoolers welcome (6th grade and up) – Sundays 6pm – 8pm.





March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Youth Group Bowling 10:00am Worship 11:30am Women's Bible Study	2 Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group 12:00pm AA Meeting 6:00pm McCann Small Group 6:00pm Upkeep Team Meeting	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 	7 Moore Birthday Party??
8  10:00am Worship 6:00pm Youth Group	9 Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group 12:00pm AA Meeting 6:00pm McCann Small Group 6:00pm Schafer 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 10:00am Soup Sale Prep 6:30pm Discipleship Essentials	12 8:00am Lifeline Screening 1:00pm Meals 4 Children Food Packing 6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	13 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED 11:00am Soup Sale Prep	14 9:00am Soup Sale Prep 3:00pm Soup Sale Pick-Up
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 4:30pm Discipleship Team Meeting 6:00pm Girl Scout Thinking Day 6:00pm McCann Small Group	17 6:00pm Girl Scout Troop 20130 8:00pm N.A. meeting 	18 Meals on Wheels 6:30pm Discipleship Essentials 6:30pm Girl Scout Troop 52527	19 6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	20 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED 	21 George 1st. Birthday Party
22 10:00am Worship 11:00am Congregational Meeting 6:00pm Youth Group	23 Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group 12:00pm AA Meeting 6:00pm McCann Small Group 6:00pm Schafer 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 Polka Birthday Party??
29  Bair Birthday Party 10:00am Worship 11:15am Ladies Lunch 11:30am Women's Bible Study 6:00pm Youth Group	30 Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group 10:30am Card Ministry 12:00pm AA Meeting 6:00pm McCann Small Group	31 6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 8:00pm N.A. meeting	1  Meals on Wheels 6:00pm Deacons Meeting	2	3 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	4

