

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 2022

Post-Scripts
a monthly publication

Pastor's Corner

For this year's Winter Olympics, I got a slow start. For various reasons I didn't watch much in the opening days. BUT I just heard the most amazing story from the field of speed skating! A couple weeks ago (on February 13th), US speed skater [Erin Jackson](#) won the women's 500m gold medal, becoming both the first US woman to win a speed skating gold at the Olympics as well as the first Black woman to win an individual medal in speed skating (*according to a CNN article by George Ramsay and Patrick Sung*) – which is *impressive* but not what *amazed* me. The part that “wowed” me was when I learned that in order to be able to do that, her teammate gave up her spot to her. Basically, Jackson would have missed competing, because she slipped during qualifying trials, but – get this – her teammate Brittany Bowe gave up her own spot to ensure that Jackson was able to go to Beijing! Let that sink in ... Think about the amount of time, dedication and sacrifice Bowe must have put into getting to the Olympics to compete ... If you really take that into account, this gesture is remarkable. Yes, Bowe was able to compete in a different event (the 1000m), but to me, it's still one of the most powerful things to come out of an Olympics.

This is what Bowe said in an interview - "Right after the race, I knew that if it came down to me relinquishing my spot for her to be named on the team, I would do that because she deserves it ... She has earned the right to compete in her marquee event at the Olympics, and it was an honor to give her that spot for the opportunity to race for gold for

Team USA" (*Ramsay & Sung, CNN, 2/13/2022*). Jackson, meanwhile, spoke about the "flood of emotions" she experienced when Bowe gave up her spot, adding that "you don't really know what you feel."

Do your best to imagine what that felt like for Jackson – seriously, try ... Okay? Now read what Paul wrote in Romans 5:6ff. – “For while we were still weak, at the right time, Christ died for the ungodly.” [*A paraphrase could be – “when we had slipped and fallen short, just in time, Christ gave his spot to the undeserving”* because the definition of the Hebrew word for “sin” is “to fall short of the mark”]. There's more; Paul goes on: “One will rarely die for another person – though perhaps for a righteous person, one would dare to die – but GOD demonstrates his own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” To help you and me think about how staggering this is, how extravagant this love is, think of Bowe and Jackson again. Bowe knew that Jackson deserved to be in the Olympics (she said as much), so giving up her spot – as moving and powerful as it certainly is! – is like what Paul says – “I suppose that for a righteous person (i.e., someone who *deserved* it), one might dare” to *sacrifice* herself ... But here is the Gospel: God stepped in when we did NOT deserve it ... when, far from earning our place on “his team,” we had broken the rules again and again (like an athlete doping with drugs and illegally augmenting our equipment). In our situation, we didn't just “slip” like Jackson, missing qualification by a small margin, we had made a mockery of an institution designed to be noble and bring out the best in all.

And *yet* [I love the verses in the Bible that begin with the words, “*But God ...*], even in our totally-NOT-deserving state, Someone “gave us their spot” – “But God demonstrates his own love for us in this,” that while we were cheaters (and worse), Christ took our place (and gave us his). As Paul says in 2 Corinthians, “God made [his Son], who knew no sin, to *be sin for us*, so that in him, *we* might become the *righteousness of God*” (5:21). This is what C.S. Lewis called “the great exchange.” And what happened between Jackson and Bowe helps me (and I hope it helps you) to see it in a fresh way, a humbling and inspiring way, that produces great gratitude and invigorated faith. Like spiritual speed skating! We've been given a spot in our own “Olympics” (*this life we live*). This can help us on our *Lenten track* – to stay in the lane of the cross. In fact, since we have been raised from death, let's not just *walk* in resurrection life – let's *run* the good race with all that is within us. Amen.

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



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!

From the Hearts and Hands of Session

Here are just a few glimpses from our February meeting:

*We discussed the *pastoral care* correspondence that has been extended to some of our members on the margins in our sincere effort to fulfill that role of nurture and responsibility to God's people.

*We planned to promote the **AED demonstration** at the Church Coffee Hour – which has been rescheduled for Sunday, *March 13th* (after worship) at Faith Hall – we encourage everyone to please join us.

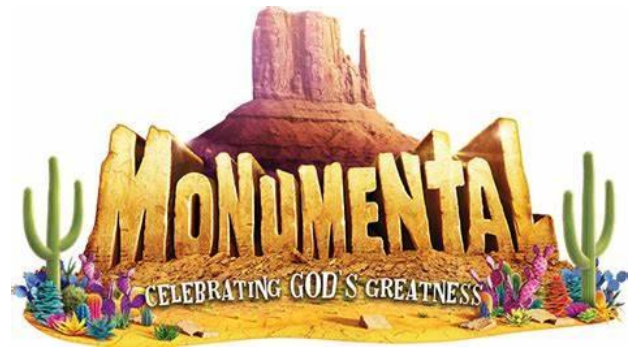
*The *Discipleship Team* was excited to announce our two **Co-Directors** for this summer's **VBS**: *Erika Manges* and *Emilie Greiner*! It will be June 20-24 (6:00-8:30 PM) – using Group's *Monumental Kit*. So mark your calendars and spread the word!

We have started to line up station leaders and other roles. Of course, we need *LOTS* more volunteers – everything from crew leaders to decoration/construction team members, donations of needed items and more. Please reach out either to one of our co-directors or the church office for great ways to help.

*The **Outreach Team** continues to promote the *School Appreciation Project* – please look for a way to help out this month as it will be carried out in April. The Outreach Team is also working on visitor & guest materials (like a Visitor Packet including a tri-fold brochure along with practical and fun items to extend hospitality).

*Finally, in cooperation with the **Deacons**, the **Fellowship Team** decided to answer the call to support a local family dealing with the challenges of cancer with some special food assistance.

We continue to ask you all for the following: 1) prayer for each of the Elders and Deacons as we seek to lead and serve God's people & community, 2) prayer each week for Pastor Brian as he works to communicate God's Word not just in the Sunday sermon but through the week, and 3) your support of the *Mission & Vision* of Puckety through your committed involvement & investment in the various interconnected ministries done in Christ's name.





- 02 Cliff McKay
- 06 Sophia Earhart
- 13 Michelle Gordon
- 20 Chari Burtner
- 27 Mick Dober

Your Deacons:

- Mick Dober
- Pat Fish
- Traci Kirchartz
- Cecil McCutcheon
- Brandy Roland
- Maria Schafer
- Kim Soulcheck
- Jean Welte
- Fran Kapelewski
- Nita Serene
- Brenda McAllister
- Rodney Schafer

Corporate Officers:

- President:** Matt Wehrle
- Vice-Pres.:** Jennifer McKay
- Secretary:** Debra Artman
- Treasurer:** Chuck West



Watch your announcements for an Easter flower order form coming soon!

Your Session:
 Deb Artman – Clerk
 Chari Burtner
 Charlene McKay
 Jennifer McKay
 Matt Wehrle
 Chuck West
 Kelly Kapelewski
 Irene Nelson



Offering counters:

- 3/6: Helen Crissman & Marilyn Crumley
- 3/13: Janet Karan & Deb Artman
- 3/20: Chuck & Judy West
- 3/27: Jolene Kostelansky, Sophia Earhart and Matt Wehrle

Pastor:

Reverend Brian Kilbert

Administrative Secretary:

Kelly Kapelewski

Bookkeeper:

Debra Artman

Choir Director:

Lorraine Menk

Organist/Pianist:

Sue Close

Housekeeper:

Irene Nelson

Financial Secretary:

Judy West

Christian Ed:

Jamie Kmett

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.



The Deacons are collecting names for those in need of an Easter food basket:

Sponser's name/phone:

Family name/# of adults:

Children/ages:

Turn this into any Deacon/church office by 4/3. Food will need picked up 4/9.

Ladies Night Out! Unity Community Church in Plum is hosting a Just for Women evening full of laughter, learning, stories and music. The speaker is Melissa Spoelstra, an author and Bible Teacher. The women's Bible Study completed a study written by Spoelstra in 2021. Comedy is by Kristin Weber and Music by Mia Koehne. Tickets are \$25, \$20 if we book a group of 10 women. Date is Sunday March 13th with doors opening at 4:30 PM. Please let Wiebke know at 724-799-3323 or veesb@yahoo.com if you would like to purchase a ticket. Car pooling will be offered if possible.



The Bible readings are from "Book of Common Worship"

March 6:

Deut 26:1-11
Psalm 9:1-2, 9-16
Romans 10:8b-13
Luke 4:1-13

March 13:

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18
Psalm 27
Phil 3:17-4:1
Luke 13:31-35

March 20:

Isaiah 55:1-9
Psalm 63:1-8
1 Cor 10:1-13
Luke 13:1-9

March 27:

Joshua 5:9-12
Psalm 32
2 Cor 5:16-21
Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32



- 2 Irene Nelson
- 3 Sophia Earhart
- 6 Melissa Baronie
- 7 Ben Johnston
Darlene Miller
- 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
Mark Cosentino

Crafternoon:

We meet on one Sunday a month after church and coffee fellowship. This month will be March 13th after the coffee fellowship in the conference room. Any crafter is welcome to join as long as your craft travels. Per request Wiebke will do crocheting lessons for anyone who wants to learn or refresh their skills. We will start with a crocheted sampler scarf. To participate please bring with you 2 balls/skeins of #4 worsted weight acrylic yarn. They can be the same or two or more different colors. I would recommend staying with the same brand and type of yarn. You will also need a 6MM or a J-10 hook. Please reach out to Wiebke at 724-799-3323 with any questions.



Musical Notes from the Choir Director:

We are about to move into the season of Lent...a time we reflect on the great Love of Christ and how He died to free us from the bondage of our sin. The choir's anthems will reflect that sentiment and, we pray, will open hearts and minds to a deeper relationship with Christ through the lyrics and music. Yes, we are human and yes, we are not always perfect. But God sees our efforts perfectly. We pray our music brings you peace, love, and a deeper understanding of what Christ did for us on His road to Calvary.

Hungry hungry hippos at youth group 😁🐘



A Devotional for You – Read Luke 7:36-50

“I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—as her great love has shown. But whoever has been forgiven little loves little.” (Luke 7:47)

In this story, Jesus interacts with two sinners: the smug Pharisee who lacks basic hospitality, and a sorrowful intruder who lavishes him with expensive perfume and penitent tears. One points an accusing finger, the other crumbles to her knees in humility. The reality is that both sinners—in fact, all sinners—must start at the feet of Jesus, where unworthiness is transformed into complete forgiveness and restoration. Righteousness is not earned but granted by grace alone. Bonny Mulder-Behnia shares, “Our church has picnic tables on the patio, where members often gather to drink coffee after a worship service and—sometimes just hours later—local teens gather to drink alcohol or use drugs. My mission is to extend Christ’s love to both groups, with the hope and prayer that they might one day sit together at these tables and share their testimonies of God’s amazing grace. Some Christians can have whitewashed memories of the seriousness of their own sin, while seekers just meeting Jesus may feel not good enough. Jesus invites us all to meet at his feet, where our tears and his love flow freely. From that level, we can help one another up to walk together as fellow followers. No one is better than another, and we all must know of our need for the Savior and want to grow in faith.”

Let me share another important aspect of this. Matthew 25:40 says, “Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.” If you read the entire parable in this chapter, you will notice that Jesus links sacrificial hospitality with eternal reward. He goes as far as to say that the way we treat other image-bearers of God is the way we treat God himself. We love God by loving others. We may nod in agreement and then give some money or food to a homeless shelter or a food pantry.

But Jesus specifically says, “You gave me something to eat ... you invited me in ... you clothed me ... you came to visit me.” Contributions coupled with personal involvement are a God-honoring combination.” There are people in your community today who are feeling neglected and forgotten, especially those whose situations may cause them to feel ashamed. Think of someone struggling with mental health issues, loneliness, abuse, guilt, job loss, financial crisis, marital trouble, or children not walking with God. Ask God to bring someone to your mind, and reach out personally with a card, call, or visit. Consider it a date with Jesus; you might just see him in them, and they may see him in you. God of compassion, give us your heart for people who are not outcasts in your eyes but precious ones made in your image. May we love them, learn from them, and see you in them. Amen.



Puckety Church is hosting a community Easter Egg Hunt! Saturday, April 9 at 1:00pm. All children invited up through 5th grade. There will be flyers distributed with more details soon and watch your weekly announcement sheets!










A sign-up sheet for volunteers will be on the bulletin board in the coming weeks. Ask Kelly Kapelewski or Brenda McAllister if you have any questions!

OUR YOUTH GROUP AT JAMES 5:16 BOXING STUDIO



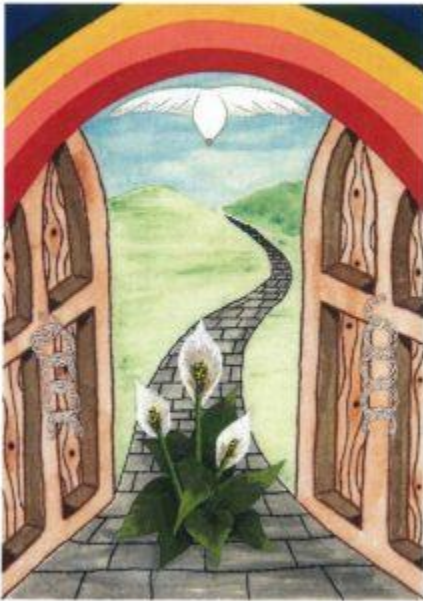


MARCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>27</p> <p>10:00 AM Worship 6:00 PM Youth Group</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Meals on wheels 10:00 AM Men's Group 6:00 PM Worship Team Meeting</p>	<p>1</p> <p>6:00 PM Girl Scout Troop 20130 6:30 PM Christian Assembly of God 6:30 PM Outreach Team Meeting 8:00 PM N.A. meeting</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Meals on wheels 7:00 PM Girl Scout Troop 26605</p>  <p>7:00 PM worship Service</p>	<p>3</p> <p>6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>4</p>  <p>Meals on wheels OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Rudolph Birthday Party</p>
<p>6</p>  <p>Lardin Birthday Party 10:00 AM worship 11:30 AM Women's Bible Study 6:00 PM Youth Group</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Meals on wheels 10:00 AM Men's Group 10:30 AM Card Ministry 5:30 PM Girl Scouts 46799 6:30 PM Upkeep Meeting</p>	<p>8</p> <p>1:00 PM Bracken Bible Study 6:30 PM Christian Assembly of God 6:30 PM Session Meeting 8:00 PM N.A. meeting</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Meals on wheels 6:00 PM Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00 PM Girl Scout Troop 26605 7:00 PM Pastor Brian Small Group Meeting 7:00 PM Schafer Small Group Meeting</p>	<p>10</p> <p>5:00 PM Girl Scouts 26234 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Meals on wheels OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13</p>  <p>Youth Group Bowling Outing 10:00 AM worship 11:00 AM Congregational Meeting to Elect Officers 11:15 AM Coffee Hour 12:00 PM Crafternoon</p> 	<p>14</p> <p>Meals on wheels 10:00 AM Men's Group 5:30 PM MS Group Meeting 6:30 PM Seneca Service Unit Leader Meeting</p>	<p>15</p> <p>8:00 AM Lifeline Screening 6:00 PM Girl Scout Troop 20130 6:30 PM Christian Assembly of God 7:00 PM Sewing Guild 8:00 PM N.A. meeting</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Meals on wheels 7:00 PM Girl Scout Troop 26605</p>	<p>17</p>  <p>5:00 PM Girl Scouts 26234 6:30 PM Burrellton Garden Club 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Meals on wheels OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20</p>  <p>Mr. Rogers Day 10:00 AM worship 11:15 AM Prayer walk 11:30 AM Women's Bible Study 6:00 PM Youth Group</p> 	<p>21</p> <p>Meals on wheels 10:00 AM Men's Group 5:30 PM Girl Scouts 46799 6:30 PM Discipleship Team Meeting</p>	<p>22</p> <p>1:00 PM Bracken Bible Study 6:30 PM Christian Assembly of God 8:00 PM N.A. meeting</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Meals on wheels 6:00 PM Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00 PM Pastor Brian Small Group Meeting 7:00 PM Schafer Small Group Meeting</p>	<p>24</p> <p>5:00 PM Girl Scouts 26234 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Meals on wheels OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>26</p> <p>10:00 AM Kostelansky Birthday Party</p>
<p>27</p>  <p>10:00 AM worship 6:00 PM Youth Group</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Meals on wheels 10:00 AM Men's Group</p>	<p>29</p> <p>6:00 PM DKG Meeting 6:30 PM Christian Assembly of God 8:00 PM N.A. meeting</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Meals on wheels</p>	<p>31</p> <p>6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>1</p> <p>Meals on wheels OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>2</p>



World Day of Prayer 2022



ENGLAND, WALES & NORTHERN IRELAND

"I know the plans I have for you."

