

# ***SONSHINE NEWSLETTER***

*A Publication of Rocky Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church*

***April 2012***

***“Sharing, Preparing and Caring in Jesus’ Name”***

**321 Rocky Grove Avenue, Franklin, PA 16323**

**Church Phone: 814-432-4162**

**Website: [www.rockygrover.org](http://www.rockygrover.org)**

**Email Address: [rgapc @ verizon.net](mailto:rgapc@verizon.net)**

**Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.**

**Worship - 10:45 a.m.**

**Reverend Sue Nageotte, Pastor**

**Rhonda Rust, Secretary**

**Edith Richards, Organist Emeritus**

**June McClintock, Organist**

**Janet Bish, Assistant Organist**

**Scott Donaldson, Custodian**

***Church Office Hours:***

***Tuesday and Wednesday, 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM***

***Thursday 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM***

# **SERVANTS FOR APRIL**

**Hospital Visits:** Elder    Phyllis Wetzel

Deacon    Linda Zeller

**Worship Leader:** Jim Speth

**Ushers:** Debbie Dunlap, Rhonda Rust, Phyllis Wetzel,

George Wielandt & Don Yount

**Greeters:**        April 1    Debbie & Floyd Dunlap

8    Rhonda Rust & Joyce Wetjen (Sunrise)

8    Joyce Dillemath & Nikki Henz

15    Bill & Lorraine McCauley

22    Denny & Melanie McGinnis

**Acolytes:**        April 1    Paige Winder

8    Doug Songer

15    Austin Clark

22    Hanna Wielandt

29    Lillian Songer

**Nursery:**        April 1    Jeremiah & Malinda Lukers

8    Diane Whitman & Cassidy Clark

15    Joyce Dillemath

22    Sarah Moreland

29 Molly Whitling

Children's April 1 Diane Whitman

Church: 8 Wayne Edmondson

15 George Wielandt

22 Pam Baughman

29 Pam Viele

**NOTE:** There will be no Acolyte, Nursery or Children's Church for Easter Sunrise Service.

### **April Birthdays**

3 Bill McCauley

20 Jeff Lyons

11 Joanne Brannon

Melanie McGinnis

Ed Brannon

Richard Vogan

12 Joan Lepley

22 Amie Wielandt

Paisley Kathryn Newton (2011) 23 Jonelle Davis

13 Kaden Henderson (2006)

26 Brenda Cokain

16 Lois Burns

28 Ryan Sandok (2007)

18 Megan Yeager

29 Phyllis Wetzel

30 Raymond Aikins

**. NOTES OF THANKS**

**Your kind expression of sympathy is gratefully acknowledged and deeply appreciated by the family of Thomas Moffit. The wheat sheaf is also beautiful and greatly appreciated.**  
*Eleanore Moffit*

*Note: Thomas Richard Moffitt was called home March 7, 2012.*

**Thanks for all the cards and remembrances at my birthday celebration on March 17<sup>th</sup>. I am so thankful for friends and especially for my family.**  
*Mabel Mong*

#### **RGAPC Financial Information**

	<b>February 2012</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>
<b>Congregational Giving</b>	<b>\$ 7,736.00</b>	<b>\$ 16,610.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 8,127.35</b>	<b>\$ 16,056.92</b>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>-\$ 391.35</b>	<b>\$ 553.08</b>

*Watch the Sunday bulletin for March 2012 financial information, which was not yet available when this publication went to print.*

Newsletter articles are due in the church office by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. Please write out all of the information as you wish it to appear. Be sure to provide a contact name and phone number for an event so your group can be contacted if needed. Thank you!

#### **FROM THE SESSION**

##### **Approved Motions from the Session Meeting – March 12<sup>th</sup>:**

- **Minutes of the regular Session Meeting of 13 Feb 2012.**

- Financial Secretary's report for the period ending 29 Feb 12 and the following Treasurer's reports: checking account summary, budget year-to-date and Financial Report for February 2012.
- With regret, the transfer of the memberships of Jerry and Maryann Yount to the Grace United Methodist Church, Oil City.
- Received Minutes of the Trustee meeting on 5 Mar, the Christian Education Ministry Team meeting on 20 Feb, the Missions and Outreach Ministry Team meetings on 27 Feb and 4 Mar, the Congregational Life & Worship Committee meeting on 5 Mar, and the Stewardship Ministry Team meeting on 4 Mar.
- Joyce Wetjen as the replacement for Richard Mortimer as a signatory for the Stifel Nicolaus Accounts.
- Wayne Edmondson as a signatory for the Stifel Nicolaus Accounts.
- Hiring June McClintock as our organist for a three month trial period.
- Purchasing a gift for Edie Richards. A celebration honoring Edie will be held after the worship service on 15 Apr.
- A request from the Missions and Outreach Ministry Team to apply for grant funds from the Presbytery of Lake Erie and the Frank E. Clark Charitable Trust for an outreach program. At this time, \$1,500.00 will be requested from the Presbytery and \$1,500.00 from the Frank E. Clark Charitable Trust and \$500.00 to come from RGAPC Missions undesignated funds.
- Scheduling The Keelings, a family musical ministry, for an evening appearance at our church of Sunday, 28 Apr 2013.
- The baptism of Savannah Cook, daughter of Matthew and Allyson Cook during the worship service on Sunday, 15 Apr 12. Savannah is the granddaughter of Dennis and Melanie McGinnis.
- A congregational informational meeting after the worship service on Sunday, 6 May 12. The 2011 annual reports will be distributed before this meeting.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS AT RGAPC**

#### **Youthful Spirits**

Men and women with *youthful spirits* gather for food and fellowship at noon the first Wednesday of each month. Join in the fun April 4th at The Uptown Bistro, 1235 Liberty Street, Franklin. Call Doris Feather at 437-5236 to make a reservation. Watch the Sunday bulletins for information of the next event on May 2, 2012.

**HOLY WEEK**

**Thursday April 5th**      **Maundy Thursday** worship at RGAPC with

**7:00 PM**                      **Franklin First Presbyterian Church**

**Supper**                      **Tenebrae service with celebration of the Lord's**

**Friday, April 6th**      **Good Friday** - the church will be open for

**3:00-6:00 PM**              **prayer in the sanctuary.**

**Sunday April 8th**      **EASTER – Resurrection of the Lord**

**7:30 AM**                      **Sunrise Worship Service at RGAPC with**  
**guests, Grace United Methodist of Rocky**  
**Grove & Fox Street Church of God**

**8:30 AM**                      **Easter Sunrise Breakfast – there are**  
**sign-up sheets on the bulletin boards outside**  
**the narthex and the church office.**

**9:30 AM**                      **Sunday School**

**10:45 AM**                      **Easter Sunday Worship, with music by the**  
**RGAPC choir**

**April 15<sup>th</sup> – Retirement luncheon after church for Edith Richards.**

**May 19<sup>th</sup> – Mother-Daughter Banquet @ 6:00 p.m.**

**June 16<sup>th</sup> – Progressive Dinner (Anyone interested in hosting  
should contact Nancy Weltner at 676-0521.)**

**July 14<sup>th</sup> – Church Family Picnic @ Kamp Kiwanis**

## **UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS**

### **Laymen's Good Friday (April 6<sup>th</sup>) Breakfast & Service**

Men of all ages will gather for breakfast at 6:00 a.m. at the Oil City K of C Hall and then dismiss next door to Grace United Methodist Church for 7:00 a.m. worship. Service concludes by 8:00 a.m. Tickets are available at the door or: Friedhaber's and Williams Decorating in Oil City, Somers Family Dentistry in Seneca, Oil City Sewing Center at the Mall, Victorian Art and Frame in Franklin and Gill Consulting in Reno.

### **Youth for Christ's 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Ladies Good Friday Breakfast**

Adelle Campbell Dickie will be the featured speaker Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 a.m. at Seneca United Methodist Church, 196 East State Road, Seneca. Advance tickets are available through April 2, 2012. After that, tickets at the door are for the program only.

The **OIL REGION JOB FAIR 2012** will be at the Cranberry Mall, Routes 322 & 257, Cranberry, PA on Wednesday, April 11<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Additional information is posted on the bulletin boards.

**“7:29 out by 9” Breakfast**

The next Men’s “7:29 out by 9” breakfast will be held on April 21<sup>st</sup> at Galloway United Methodist Church.

“I appeal to you brothers, in the name of *our Lord Jesus Christ*, that all of you agree with one another so that there may be no division among you and that you may be perfectly united in mind and thought.” 1 Corinthians 1:10

**HIGHLANDS ROCKS 2012 – Saturday, August 4th**

All-day Christian music festival at Westminster Highlands, 263 Big Bend Road, Emlenton, PA. Admission includes parking and all-day concert access. Locally & nationally known Christian bands and speakers. Register before April 30<sup>th</sup> for early bird pricing: \$20. Additional information can be found on posters on bulletin boards.

**Suggested Readings for Holy Week**

**Monday:     Isaiah 42: 1-9 and John 11:45-57**

**Tuesday:    Psalm 71:1-14 and John 12: 20-36**

**Wednesday: Isaiah 50:4-9a and John 13:21-32**

**Thursday:   John 13: 1-17, 33-35 & I Cor 11:23-26**

**Friday:       John Chapters 18 and 19**

**Saturday:    Isaiah 52:13 - 53:12 and I Cor 1:18-31**

**Sunday upon rising: John 20:1-18**

**Worried Sick**

The ninety-five year old woman at the nursing home received a visit from one of her fellow church members. “How are you feeling?” the visitor asked.



**“Oh,” said the lady, “I’m just worried sick!”**

**“What are you worried about, dear?” her friend asked. “You look like you’re in good health. They are taking care of you, aren’t they?”**

**“Yes, they are taking very good care of me.”**

**“Are you in any pain?” she asked.**

**“No, I have never had a pain in my life.”**

**“Well, what are you worried about?” her friend asked again.**

**The lady leaned back in her rocking chair and slowly explained her major worry. “Every close friend I ever had has already died and gone on to heaven. I’m afraid they’re all wondering where I went.”**

**Dear RGAPC members and friends,**

**Many of you will pick up this edition of the Sonshine Newsletter when you come to worship on the first Sunday of April – which this year happens to be both April Fools’ Day and Palm Sunday, the beginning of Holy Week.**

**Palm Sunday, of course, is the day when Jesus entered Jerusalem riding upon the colt of a donkey, and was hailed by the multitudes as the messiah, the “son of David.” Many in the crowd were wild with excitement because they believed Jesus was about to restore Israel to its former status as an independent nation, no longer under the domination of the hated Romans. “Hosanna!” they shouted; “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”**

**Less than a week later, the crowds were no longer singing his praises. Instead, they mercilessly clamored, “crucify! crucify!” Scripture tells us clearly that the religious and political leaders conspired to arrest Jesus and put him to death. No doubt the high priest and other “insiders” felt enormous satisfaction when Jesus was nailed to the cross. Soon, they thought, that foolish, trouble-making rabbi would be dead, buried and gone for good!**

But at the very moment they *thought* they had triumphed, God was in fact using them to work out his sovereign plan of victory over sin and death. Far from being a helpless prisoner, Jesus willingly gave his life to pay the penalty for our sin. The apostle Paul wrote, “The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to those who are being saved it is the power of God . . . The foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.” (1 Cor 1:18,25)

Essential as the cross was and is, the cross itself is not the foundation of our faith. Jesus Christ – crucified *and risen* – is the foundation of our faith. Jesus told his disciples, “*I am* the way, the truth and the life.” Jesus told Martha, when her brother Lazarus died: “*I am* the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me will not die, but will live *forever*.” Indeed, the whole message of the Bible can be summed up in what Jesus told Nicodemus: “God so loved the world that he sent his only begotten Son that whoever believes in him will not perish but will live *forever*.”

“Forever” is a wonderful word, a joyful word, a victorious word. “Forever” is not foolishness - it is God’s plan and purpose for all who trust in Jesus Christ. This week as we move from Palm Sunday, through Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, and on to Resurrection Sunday, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you – forever and ever! Amen. Pastor Sue

## **MISSIONS CORNER:**

Jim and Alice Vanderhoof who are Field Leaders for WGM (World Gospel Mission) Kenya gave a presentation during the worship service on March 18<sup>th</sup>. They have been serving in Kenya since 1984 and it was shortly thereafter that RGAPC Missions Committee chose them as one of our missionary recipients. We have enjoyed sharing the gospel through them in another part of the world. “Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature” (Mark 16:15) certainly applies to Jim and Alice. They also shared their wonderful gift of music with us. What a joy they are! They are now heading back to Kenya, but we look forward to having them again when they are back in the states in the future.

One Great Hour of Sharing donations will continue to be received through Easter Sunday. Children’s offering banks should be brought on Easter with the money left in the Fish Box. The fish box should then be placed in the wicker basket on the altar during Time with Young Disciples.

**Joyce Wetjen**

**Missions Committee**