

Rocky Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church

DECEMBER 2010 NEWSLETTER

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

321 Rocky Grove Avenue, Franklin, PA 16323

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

Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.

Worship – 10:45 a.m.

Rev. Sue Nageotte, Pastor

Katrina Anthony, Church Secretary

Church Office Hours: Tuesday through Friday

8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

A Note from Pastor Sue

Dear friends,

Advent is a time of preparation, of making things ready. We prepare Christmas cards, Christmas meals, Christmas presents, and most families prepare a Christmas tree. Most importantly, though, Advent is a time for preparing our hearts.

This year, as part of my own Advent preparations I've been reading some poems and prayers written by Brian Wren, a pastor, musician and theologian. I offer to you one of his poems – in fact, a call to worship – for worship, after all, is our best response to the Christ-child who was born to display the magnificence of God's mercy, righteousness and grace.

*Come and listen, come and sing, come and tell
how the Name beyond all names,
carpenter of all creation, prepared to visit earth
by sending prophets and forerunners
and choosing a people, a place, a time, and a date
to risk being born.*

*Come and listen, come and sing, come and tell
how Joshua of Nazareth, Jesus,
named "Liberator," "Savior," and "God with us,"
was cradled by low-status parents
in a small town
far from the centers of power
in a super-power empire.*

*Come and listen, come and sing, come and tell
of birth and growth, teaching and healing,
betrayal and death, the day of resurrection
and the coming of the Spirit!*

*Come and listen, come and sing, come and tell.
Come, and worship God!*

So come! “Come and listen, come and sing, come and tell.” Come and let your heart, your voice and your spirit be lifted in worship during this “most wonderful time of the year.” This is also a wonderful time to invite friends, family and neighbors to come with you. The RGAPC choir is in fine form, and will provide special music every Sunday now through Christmas Eve.

Come to worship on December 19th to encourage the children as they share their gifts in a special program during the regular morning worship service. Come to the Christmas Eve Candlelight service, at 7:30, for a service filled with light and music. “Come and listen, come and sing, come and tell.”

At this special season and always, I pray that you and those who are dear to you will be filled to overflowing with the hope, peace, joy and love of God’s amazing gift - Jesus Christ.

The giving of gifts is not something humans invented. God started the giving spree when he gave a gift beyond words, the unspeakable gift of His Son. - Robert Flatt

REPORT FROM THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION:

The annual meeting of the congregation was held after worship on Sunday, November 14th, in conjunction with the annual meeting of the corporation and -- of course -- the annual Chili Cook Off.

The Nominating Committee presented a slate of nominees, and there being no nominations from the floor, the following officers and representatives were elected unanimously:

- To serve as Elders (3 year terms, class of 2013): Debra Dunlap, Malinda Lukers and James Sandok;
- To serve as Deacons (3 year terms, class of 2013): Joyce Dillemath, Darlene Exley and Melanie McGinnis.
- To serve as Trustees (3 year terms, class of 2013): Bob Alden and Brad Wetjen.
- To serve on the Nominating Committee for the Congregation, for 2011: Sheryl Clinefelter, Grace Gibbons, Mabel Mong, Joyce Wetjen and Phyllis Wetzel.
- To serve as representatives to Presbyterian Homes: James and Florence Albright, and Eugene and Marjorie Sheffer.
- To serve as Auditor (3 year term, class of 2013): John Klinger.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned with prayer at 12:32.

Tracey Pellow won the trophy for Best Overall Chili by a very large margin, with a delicious recipe that she modestly said "was just the way I always make chili." Congratulations to Tracey, and to our newly elected officers and representatives.

Church Office Update

RGAPC welcomes Katrina Lynn Anthony as our new church secretary. Katrina is a member of Hasson Heights Presbyterian Church with experience in a variety of customer service positions. Please note, the church office will now be open four days a week: Tuesdays through Fridays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Pastor Sue is usually in the office Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Other appointment times and home visits can be arranged by request. If you are in need of pastoral care, please call the church during regular office hours. You can also send EMail to: RockyGrovePastor @ yahoo.com. For urgent matters call Pastor Sue on her cell phone 814-573-5203.

From the Missions, Outreach, and Evangelism Team:

Hello everyone, we hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving. We also wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The Christmas Joy Offering is upon us also. It goes toward helping to support the unmet needs of families that have devoted their lives to the mission of PC(USA). Today it is shared equally by the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions which provides critical assistance to Presbyterian church workers and their families and Presbyterian affiliated racial ethnic schools and colleges, which enable students to develop their gifts and find their calling. The offering dates back to the 1930's.

We hope you will join us in giving to this cause. You will find the Joy Offering envelopes in this newsletter and in the pews.

Christmas Card Exchange Table

In past years the Deacons have provided a table where people could place Christmas cards for other church members to pick up. Because it was difficult to keep the cards in order, sometimes cards got misplaced and did not reach their intended recipient. Therefore, the deacons have decided not to set up a card exchange table this year. However, you are still more than welcome to bring Christmas cards with you to church and give them to others here, in order to save postage.

PRAYER AND FELLOWSHIP

The Men's Prayer Breakfast meets the first Saturday of each

month at 8:30 a.m. at King's Family Restaurant. All men of the church are invited to fellowship with us.

The Women's Prayer Breakfast meets at King's Family Restaurant the second Saturday of each month at 8:30 a.m. Women of all ages are invited -- we hope to see you there!

The Mid-Week Bible Study is now meeting at 7 p.m. each Wednesday night, immediately after choir practice. All are welcome to join us as Pastor Sue leads us in a verse-by-verse study of Genesis. (ps, there will be no Bible Study on Dec 29)

FOOD FOR THE BODY & FOOD FOR THE SOUL

Light refreshments are provided in Moorhead Hall each Sunday morning following Sunday School. The Congregational Life Committee is seeking volunteers who would occasionally be willing to provide snacks and/or help set up the refreshments. Sign-up sheets are located in the narthex (entry to the sanctuary) and in Moorhead Hall (downstairs). For more info contact Don Yount 432-3811 or Nancy Weltner 676-0521.

**Thank you to everyone who has already
helped with our Sunday refreshments!**

January Birthdays:

1 Sierra Cook	16 Vicki Henderson
2 Jennifer Jones	18 Darcy Henderson
3 Alaina Franklin	19 Kensington Baughman
4 Judy Sandok	20 Lois Pierce
Lois Carr	24 Brooke Brannon
5 Elissa Stuttler	26 Mike Hartman
9 Scott Edmondson	28 Willard Burns
11 Aaron Weltner	Liam Burns

13 Alisha Newton

29 Joshua Kirwin

15 Madeleine Wielandt

Make somebody happy today;

Show them that you really do care

Send a note of cheer and prayer

2010 Budget Information:

November Income \$ 6,795.20

November Expenses \$ 5,495.76

Year-to-date income \$ 86,603.71

Year-to-date expenses \$ 84,488.00

**Thank you for your faithful gifts to the
ministry and mission of RGAPC!**

In Christ's Service:

Pastor: Reverend Sue Nageotte

Worship Leader – December: Jim Speth

Worship Leader – January: Vicki Henderson

**Ushers – December: Ray & Toby Aikins, Jim Albright, Gene Sheffer,
and Harold Bell**

**Ushers – January: Debbie Dunlap, Wayne Edmondson, Don
McNany, Rhonda Rush, and Brad Wetjen**

Greeters -- December: 5: Betty Cornmesser & Mabel Mong

12: John & Vicki Henderson

19: Dick & Cheri Mortimer

24: Floyd Dunlap & Dick Exley

26: Jim Nageotte & John Dumbleton

January: (to be arranged)

Acolytes: December: No Acolytes in December.

January: 2: Austin Clark

9. Adam Kirwin

16. Josh Kirwin

23. Aaron Weltner

30. Konner Hartman

Nursery Workers: December: 5: Molly Whitling

12: Diane Whitman

19: Joyce Dillemath

26: Jeremiah & Melinda Lukers

January: 2. Pam Viele

9. Sarah Morehead

16. Diane Whitman

23. Joyce Dillemath

30. Jeremiah & Melinda Lukers

Hospital Visitation:

December: Elder George Wielandt, phone 432-4937

Deacon Diane Whitman, phone 374-4077

January: Elder Jim Speth, phone 673-1219

Deacon (to be announced)

SESSION REPORT (NOVEMBER, 2010):

Approved motions from the regular Session meeting on November 8, 2010:

- **Approved the minutes of the October 11th 2010 Session meeting;**
- **Approved the October Treasurers Report and Financial Secretary's reports;**
- **Received and accepted minutes from the Trustees (meeting Nov 1, 2010), Christian Education Committee (Oct 25, 2010) and Missions, Outreach and Evangelism (Oct 25, 2010).**
- **Approved emergency repairs to the bell tower in the amount of \$5,200 and sealing of all cracks in the masonry of the church proper totaling \$1,600.**
- **After a report from the Personnel Committee about the pastor's annual performance review, and after discussion of the pastor's job description in the Administrative Manual, session voted to extend Rev. Sue Nanette's contract to serve as our temporary supply pastor for an additional year, serving at 80% of full-time.**

From the special Session meeting on November 14, 2010:

- **Upon the recommendation of the Personnel Committee, Session voted to hire Katrina Lynn Anthony as our church secretary at 20 hours per week, with required background checks to be conducted;**
- **Approved a request by the Sweet Adelines singing group to use Morehead Hall once a week and to store some of their equipment at the church.**

