

SONSHINE NEWSLETTER

A Publication of Rocky Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church

February 2012

“Sharing, Preparing and Caring in Jesus’ Name”

321 Rocky Grove Avenue, Franklin, PA 16323

Church Phone: 814-432-4162

Website: 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

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

February Birthdays

2 Michelle Dickey	14 Jeremy Dickey
3 Shawn Franklin	15 Flo Albright
4 Yolanda Clark	16 Danielle Brandt
Mallory Wetjen (2003)	17 Cameron Whitling (2010)
5 Nancy Weltner	18 Nathan Edmondson
Hanna Wielandt (2002)	Charlene Ekis
7 Bob Wielandt	20 Amanda Lewis
8 Ben Edmondson	Doug Songer (2002)
10 Kennedy Hartman	Marie Wendt
11 Maddy Wielandt (2004)	21 Helen Grettler
13 Andrew Brandt	Jason Davis
	26 Malinda Lukers

NOTES OF THANKS

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for the Franklin Retail Association gift certificate. It is very much appreciated. I truly enjoy helping out with the music throughout the year whenever I am available. Thanks again,

Janet Bish

To the Board of Deacons,

Thank you for the comfy fleece wrap for Christmas!

Sincerely,

Carol Rough

Dear church members,

Thank you so very much for all you have done for my girls for Christmas. It wasn't going to be a very good Christmas this year in particular because of so many changes in our family and illnesses, but thanks to each and every one of you their Christmas was very special indeed.

It's wonderful to know that there are very special people left on this earth who really care about others they don't even know. I believe you are all angels on this earth walking among us.

Thank you again so very, very much! With much love and God's blessings,

Mother of the 11 & 14 year old girls

Dear church members,

Thank you so much for the gifts! We had a really great Christmas because of you! Thank you so much for a great Christmas. It's so nice to know that there are still cool people in the world. Love,

11 & 14 year old girls you provided Christmas for

Deacons,

Thanks for the throw. So thoughtful of you because I am a shut-in. Hope I'm soon able to return to my church – it means so much to me. In Christ's Love,
Judy Ream

Newsletter articles are due in the church office by the 20th 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!

SERVANTS FOR FEBRUARY

Hospital Visits: Elder Wayne Edmondson

Deacon Joyce Dillemath

Worship Leader: Jim Sandok

Ushers: Darlene & Dick Exley, Doris Feather,
and Aaron & Nancy Weltner

Greeters: February 5 Dave & Brenda Cokain
12 Joyce Dillemath & Nikki Henz
19 The Doug Kirwin Family
26 Gene & Margie Sheffer

Acolytes: February 5 Austin Clark
12 Hanna Wielandt
19 Lillian Songer
26 Paige Winder

Nursery: February 5 Joyce Dillemath
12 Sarah Moreland
19 Molly Whitling
26 Malinda Lukers

Children's Church: February 5 Wayne Edmondson

12 Malinda & Jeremiah Lukers

19 Diane Whitman

26 George Wielandt

UPCOMING EVENTS at RGAPC

Please mark the dates on your calendars!

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 February 1st at Amazing Foods Catering Co., 1327 Elk Street, Franklin. Reservations have been made for fifteen (15). Watch the Sunday bulletin for information of the next event on March 7, 2012.

[illegible]

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Iris Theatre

157 West Adams Street

Cochranton , PA 16314

"Where Community Responsibility and Entertainment Meet"

January 29th	Everything In Between – Tim Tebow
Free – Donations accepted	
February 2nd – February 4th	Adventures of Tin Tin
February 9th – February 15th	We Bought a Zoo

*** Showtimes and dates are subject to change. Please consult our website (see link below) for the most up-to-date showtimes and dates.**

Show Times
(unless otherwise noted above)
Mon, Tues & Wed - 7:30
Thurs - 7:30
Fri & Sat - 7 & 9 PM
Sun - No shows unless otherwise noted above
Show Admission
(unless otherwise noted)
Adults \$3.00 Children (under 12) \$1.50
Children (under 6 with Parents) Free

FROM THE SESSION

Approved Motions from the Session Meeting – January 9th:

- The minutes of the regular Session Meeting of 12 Dec 11.
- The Financial Secretary's report for the period ending 31 Dec 11 and the following Treasurer's reports: the checking account summary, the budget year-to-date figures and the Financial Report for December 2011.
- The minutes of the Congregational Life & Worship Committee meeting on 5 Jan 12.
- The sacrament of the Lord's Supper on the following dates for 2012: February 19, April 5 (Maundy Thursday), June 3, August 5, October 7 and November 25.
- The Deacon's Fund 2011 Annual Report
- The following policy: Deposits will be made no later than Tuesday following the worship service when the offering was collected.
- Rev. Sue Nageotte's request for vacation from 16 through 21 Jan 12.
- Wayne Edmondson as elected to be the Clerk of Session.
- Wayne Edmondson as elected to be the Presbytery Rep
- Rhonda Rust as elected to be the church treasurer.
- Lois Pierce as elected to be the assistant church treasurer.
- The following policy was approved: Requests received from the Rocky Grove High School for use of our parking lots will be approved by the church secretary or the pastor if there are no conflicts, and Session will be notified.
- \$10,463.21 will come from the Housing Account and \$44,136.79 will come from the Horizon Account to pay Fiske and Sons Inc. \$54,600.00 for the remaining repair work on the bell tower.

RGAPC Financial Information

	December 2011	Year-end Totals
Congregational Giving	\$7,269.38	\$ 89,601.24
Expenses	\$9,305.52	\$101,229.95
Difference	-\$2,036.14	-\$ 11,628.71

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

MISSIONS CORNER:

Good day,

Here it is going on February already. As I am writing this the snow is coming down and there are several inches again. I am happily tucked into my home all nice and cozy watching it come down. I am praying though that my family and friends all stay safe through this.

The Christmas Joy offering was taken during Advent, and we received \$252.44 to send out. Thanks to you all.

We were also able to send each of our Mission Recipients \$385.65 at the end of the year. The recipients are: Child Evangelism Fellowship, Campus Crusade for Christ, One Mission Society, Seneca Hills Bible Camp and Retreat, Venango Youth for Christ, and World Gospel Mission.

As February approaches we look forward to Lent beginning with Ash Wednesday, which is February 22nd this year and the One Great Hour of Sharing offering. OGHS monies go to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-development of People.

Souper Bowl of Caring is coming up on Super Bowl Sunday also. The money will be donated to Community Services of Venango County. Please give generously as there are many hungry people in Venango County. Thanks.

Anyone that would like to come and join the Missions & Outreach Ministry Team is more than welcome. We would love to have you. We meet the 4th Monday of the month at 6:30 in the Men's SS classroom (old Nursery). We hope to see you there. Yes, it can be work but when it is done for the Lord it is gratifying. I hope you will consider and pray about joining us; you are needed.

Remember to keep our Church in your Prayers. Take Care and God bless you all.

His Servant,

Jill Alden

2012 Church Officers and Other Leaders

Session Members: Clerk of Session: Wayne Edmondson

Class of 2012: Linda Hartman, Jim Speth, Nancy Weltner

Class of 2013: Debbie Dunlap, Malinda Lukers, Jim Sandok

Class of 2014: Wayne Edmondson, Joyce Wetjen, Phyllis Wetzel

Board of Deacons: Moderator: Diane Whitman

Class of 2012: Jane Beach, Brenda Cokain, Diane Whitman

Class of 2013: Joyce Dilleuth, Darlene Exley, Melanie McGinnis

Class of 2014: Sarah DeLong, Margaret Wielandt, Linda Zeller

Board of Trustees: Moderator: Don Yount

Class of 2012: Sam Alden, Don McNany, Joyce Pellow

Class of 2013: Bob Alden, Brad Wetjen, Dick Exley

Class of 2014 Arnie Bish, John Klinger, Don Yount

Nominating Committee Members from the Congregation:

Jill Alden, Sheryl Clinefelter, Grace Gibbons,

Jeremiah Lukers, Mabel Mong

Church Treasurer: Rhonda Rust

Assistant Church Treasurer: Lois Pierce

Financial Secretary: Jim Clinefelter

Assistant Financial Secretary: Sam Alden

Auditors: Malinda Lukers (2012) & John Klinger (2013)

Employees:

Susanna K. Nageotte, Temporary Pastor

Rhonda Rust, Church Secretary

Scott Donaldson, Custodian

Janet Bish, Assistant Organist

Dear churches, pastors or men's leaders of the Franklin Area,

My name is Scott Walters and I and a few other men have taken up the challenge to bring men of the Christian Faith together once a month.

A breakfast call "7:29 out by 9" is held every 3rd Saturday over the months of September through May.

Currently, Galloway, Pone Lane Church of the Nazarene, First United Methodist, Atlantic Ave. United Brethren, and Christ United Methodist have rotated and hosted breakfasts. We have had up to 55 men and youth attend.

The only objective at this time of the breakfasts are to start a "spark" of unity between Men of Christ for His Glory!

Any question can be directed to me, Scott Walters at sfwalters@verizon.net Telephone 4325629-H 6574802-C

If any of your men would like to individually receive periodical emails on men's events just have them send me their email address and I will add them to my men's email list. I currently have over 125 men I send reminders out.

"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 perfected united in mind and thought." I Corinthians 1:10

Scott

QUOTABLE QUOTES:

Samuel Rutherford (a Scottish Presbyterian theologian and author):

Grace grows best in the winter.

Grace tried is better than grace, and more than grace; it is glory in its infancy.

Read more:

http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/authors/s/samuel_rutherford.html#ixzz1jvyz35lO

The Window from which we look:

A young couple moves into a new neighborhood.

The next morning while they are eating breakfast, the young woman sees her neighbor hanging the wash outside. "That laundry is not very clean," she said. "She doesn't know how to wash correctly. Perhaps she needs better laundry soap."

Her husband looked on, but remained silent.

Every time her neighbor would hang her wash to dry, the young woman would make the same comments.

About one month later, the woman was surprised to see a nice clean wash on the line and said to her husband, "Look, she has learned how to wash correctly. I wonder who taught her this."

The husband smiled and said, "I got up early this morning and cleaned our windows."

And so it is with life. What we see when watching others depends on the purity of the window through which we look.

From the Pastor's Desk

When I was a school-girl, the month of February held three special holidays: Valentine's Day (February 14), and the birthdays of those great presidents and followers of Christ, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. Valentine's Day was great fun, as classmates exchanged small colorful cards with light-hearted expressions of friendship. Washington's birthday and Lincoln's birthday were mostly memorable because we didn't have to attend school! But when I was in the third grade, my teacher, Miss Bass, made a connection between those three holidays that I have never forgotten.

Now I should explain that Miss Bass was an exceptional teacher. She was creative and energetic and kind, but also clear about her expectations and firm in matters of discipline. Miss Bass truly loved us and wanted us to have the best possible start in life. Every morning after our class recited the Pledge of Allegiance she had us say a short prayer:

**"God, please guide us through our day,
and make us good in every way."**

Mind you, this was a public elementary school! Of course, America was a different place in the 1950's. Prayer was still permitted in public schools; the Golden Rule and the Ten Commandments were posted on our cafeteria wall.

But even for that time, Miss Bass was somewhat unusual. She used Valentine's Day to teach us - in very simple terms - that all true love comes from God: the love between two friends, the love that husbands and wives have for one another, the love between a parent and a child. She told us that God loves us very much and wants us to know and to love him too.

Later in the month, Miss Bass taught us – again, in very simple terms – that both George Washington and Abraham Lincoln were men who loved God deeply. Because they loved God and trusted God, she said, God enabled them to become great leaders during times of national crisis.

There's a trend amongst modern historians to ignore or even deny the Christian faith of many of our country's great leaders. But the record is plain for those who care to do a bit of research. Consider these words from Washington's farewell speech on September 19, 1796: "It is impossible to govern the world without God and the Bible. Of all the dispositions and habits that lead to political prosperity, our religion and morality are the indispensable supports. Reason and experience both forbid us to expect that our national morality can prevail if religion is excluded."

Lincoln, too, was profoundly influenced by Christianity. During his years as president he regularly attended the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in Washington. He quoted extensively from the Bible, and spent long hours in prayer. On one occasion, a minister from the North said to him, "I hope the Lord is on our side," to which Lincoln responded, "I am not concerned about that . . . but it is my constant prayer that I, and this nation as a whole, should be on the Lord's side."

In the 1950's, Americans lived in constant fear of global nuclear war and the "threat" of communism. Miss Bass made sure we knew what to do when the air raid sirens went off. But she also taught us that God is loving and trustworthy, and that men and women of faith can – trusting God – change the world for the good. The religious culture in America has changed greatly over the last fifty years. But as followers of Jesus Christ, we still have the opportunity, and the responsibility, to influence our culture with the grace of Christ, with Godly justice and compassion for others.

Love in Christ, Pastor Sue

COMMITTEES FOR 2012

SESSION: Meeting - Second Monday of each month

CLERK: Wayne Edmondson

Ministry of Christian Education

Leaders: Malinda Lukers & Phyllis Wetzel

Ministry of Congregational Life & Worship

Leaders: Nancy Weltner & Jim Sandok

Ministry of Missions & Outreach

Leaders: Jim Speth & Debbie Dunlap

Ministry of Stewardship & Personnel

Leaders: Linda Hartman & Joyce Wetjen

Representative to Presbytery: Wayne Edmondson

TRUSTEES: Meeting - First Monday of each month

MODERATOR: Don Yount SECRETARY: Bob Alden

Church & Property – Arnie Bish, Dick Exley,

Don McNany & Brad Wetjen

Christian Education Ministry Team – Sam Alden

Congregational Life & Worship Ministry Team – Joyce Pellow

Missions & Outreach Ministry Team – John Klinger

Stewardship & Personnel Ministry Team – Don Yount

Boys Scout Liaison – Sam Alden

DEACONS: Meeting - Thursday before Communion Sunday

MODERATOR & SESSION LIAISON: Diane Whitman

SECRETARY: Melanie McGinnis

Treasurer and Finances – Sarah DeLong

Flowers – Margaret Wielandt

Home Department – Darlene Exley

Communion – Sarah DeLong

Funeral Luncheon – Darlene Exley

Nominating Committee – Melanie McGinnis

Christian Education Ministry Team – Diane Whitman

Congregational Life & Worship Ministry Team – Melanie McGinnis

Missions & Outreach Ministry Team – Joyce Dilleuth

Stewardship & Personnel Ministry Team – Diane Whitman

Shepherds – Linda Zeller & Brenda Cokain