

SONSHINE NEWSLETTER

A Publication of Rocky Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church

October 2011

“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

From the Pastor's Pen - "Gathered 'Round the Table"

Most people nowadays are good at "multi-tasking." We can listen to a ballgame on the radio while mowing the lawn or washing the car. A teenager might easily "skype" with a friend, while working on homework. A parent may fold laundry or pay bills while listening to a child recite the times-tables. My mother loved to talk on the phone while darning socks or ironing clothes. Nowadays I call folks on my cell phone while walking the dog. Some folks are so accustomed to multi-tasking that doing just ONE thing at a time can seem . . . well, terribly inefficient and slow and boring.

But just because we are able to do two things (or more!) at the same time, doesn't mean that we always should. Not long ago I realized that at least half the time my husband and I eat an evening meal together, we do so in front of the television. Our attention is focused on a favorite TV program, instead of on what we are eating or who we are with. We ask the Lord's blessing on our food and on our home, but then we turn our eyes upon that glowing box which does absolutely nothing to help us appreciate the meal or our relationship.

Earlier this week, I went to visit my father and step-mother in Ohio. Dad will be 91 in December; Joan is fifteen years younger but has been in poor health for several years. Recently she has become very weak. But despite her health troubles, they eat every meal -- *every meal* -- seated at the dining room table, from real plates (not paper). And even when it is just the two of them, at every meal -- *every meal* -- they hold hands and say grace: "Be present at this table, Lord; be here and everywhere adored. These mercies bless and grant that we may feast in paradise with Thee."

Visiting with them this week was a poignant reminder that the day is coming when Dad and Joan and I will no longer eat a meal together in this life. Our hope is indeed in the Lord and the life eternal he has promised to all who believe in Christ. But seated at that table I also realized the foolishness of rushing through our days, "multi-tasking."

2011 Church Officers and Other Leaders

Session Members:

Class of 2011: Dave Brandt, Don Yount, George Wielandt

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

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

Clerk of Session: Dave Brandt

Moderator of Session: Rev. Sue Nageotte

Session Members leading Ministry Teams:

Christian Education: Malinda Lukers & George Wielandt

Congregational Life & Worship: Don Yount & Nancy Weltner

Missions, Outreach & Evangelism: Jim Speth & Debbie Dunlap

Stewardship & Personnel: Linda Hartman & Jim Sandok

Nominations: Dave Brandt

Board of Deacons:

Moderator: Joyce Pellow

Class of 2011: Doris Feather, Joyce Pellow, Lois Pierce

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

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

Board of Trustees:

Moderator: Brad Wetjen

Class of 2011: John Dumbleton, Don Fox, Harold Bell

Class of 2012: Sam Alden, Don McNany, (vacancy)

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

Nominating Committee Members from the Congregation:

Sheryl Clinefelter, Grace Gibbons, Mabel Mong, Joyce Wetjen

and Phyllis Wetzel

Church Treasurer: Rhonda Rust

Financial Secretary: Jim Clinefelter

Assistant Financial Secretary: Sam Alden

October Birthdays

1 Susan Brandt	14 Adam Baughman
Jeremiah Lukers	15 Larry Baughman
2 Karen McAfee	17 Kaitlin Griffin
3 Art McEntire	20 Carrie Beightol
Matthew Brumbaugh	21 Isabel Griffin
4 Debbie Dunlap	22 Pam Viele
Gabe Henderson	23 Sarah Moreland
Don McNany	Kelly Sandok
5 Don Fox	Diane Whitman
7 Stacy Smith	25 Anne Brandt
Joe Tatarek	28 Brad Beightol
8 Toby Aikins	29 Doreen Walters
9 Judy Ream	Matt Cook
10 Treva Clinefelter	30 Pam Baughman
Don Weltner	John Henderson
12 Ben DeLong	31 Steve Feather
13 Joyce Riddle	

WANTED: NEW OR USED

FOR CHURCH GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

Snow blower – 2-Stage 5 Horsepower or better

Leaf Blower/Vacuum

Please inform Brad Wetjen if you have or know of

items for purchase or donation.

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!

Potato Chips

A little boy wanted to meet God. He knew it was a long trip to where God lived, so he packed his bag with potato chips and cans of root beer. A few blocks away, he met an old woman sitting in the park, just staring at some pigeons. He sat next to her and opened his lunch bag. He offered her some chips. She gratefully accepted and smiled at him. Her smile was so pretty that he wanted to see it again, so he offered her a root beer. Again, she smiled at him. The boy was delighted!

They sat there all afternoon eating and smiling, but they never said a word. As twilight approached, the boy got up to leave; but after a few steps, turned around and gave the woman a hug. She gave him her biggest smile ever.

When the boy got home, his mother was surprised by the look of joy on his face. She asked, "What did you do today that made you so happy?" He replied, "I had lunch with God and you know what? She's got the most beautiful smile I've ever seen!"

Meanwhile, the old woman, also radiant with joy, returned home. Her son was stunned by the look of peace on her face, "Mother, what did you do today that made you so happy?"

She replied, "I ate potato chips in the park with God." Then added, "You know, he's much younger than I expected."

Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around. People come into our lives for a reason, a season, or a lifetime.

Caring for others is part of our stewardship. As you enjoy the colors of autumn, take time to have lunch with God.....and bring chips!

News From Missions & Outreach Committee

Missionfest has come and gone for another year. The Missions & Outreach Committee wishes to thank each and every one who contributed in any way to the success of Missionfest 2011.

Although adversities of weather and street work had to be faced, the good Lord gave us a day of blessings as shown in our profits as follows:

Missionfest 2011 proceeds

GARAGE SALE	\$1,513.61
BAKE SALE	472.45
HOT SAUSAGE	453.20
CRAFTS	452.05
OLD & PRECIOUS	304.25
PRIZE DRAWING	300.00
POP, WATER & CHIPS	280.06
BOOK STORE	204.70
HOT DOGS & HAMBURGERS	160.82
COFFEE/DONUTS	107.10
KIDS' KINGDOM	59.00

LEMON SHAKES	26.00
BUSINESS DONATIONS	25.00
CONGREGATIONAL DONATIONS	930.00
ONE IN SPIRIT LOVE OFFERING	168.00
MISSIONFEST T-SHIRT SALES	65.00
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	- 485.20
<i>NET PROFIT TOTAL</i>	\$5,036.04
2010 CARRY OVER	\$321.26
TOTAL PROCEEDS FOR DISTRIBUTION	\$5,357.30
2012 START UP	\$262.30
FUTURE WORK TRIPS	\$535.00
RECIPIENT DISTRIBUTION	\$4,560.00

SERVANTS FOR OCTOBER

Hospital Visits: Elder Debbie Dunlap & Deacon Brenda Cokain

Worship Leader: Sheryl Clinefelter

Ushers: Bob Alden, Jill Alden, Adam Kirwin, Dennise Kirwin &

George Wielandt

Greeters:

October 2 Brad & Joyce Wetjen

9 Don & Zella McNany

16 John & Paula Klinger

23 Denny & Melanie McGinnis

30 John & Mary Jo Dumbleton

Acolytes:

October 2 COMMUNION

9 Doug Songer

16 Josh Kirwin

23 Lilly Songer

30 Aaron Weltner

Nursery:

October 2 Molly Whitling

9 Diane Whitman

16 Joyce Dillemath

23 Malinda Lukers

30 Sarah Moreland

Children's Church: October 2 Jeremiah & Malinda Lukers

9 To be announced

16 Diane Whitman

23 Pam Viele

30 Jeremiah & Malinda Lukers

The family of Dick Hamilton (Cheri Mortimer's father) wishes to thank everyone for the prayers and concerns expressed during the past five months. Dick went to be with our Lord September 14, 2011.

There will be a luncheon after worship on Sunday, October 30th to honor members of Rocky Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church who have attained 50-year membership status. The last time members were honored was in 2004. There are 19 members to add to the rolls since that time. Everyone is invited to attend the luncheon. Those being honored are:

NAME

DATES OF MEMBERSHIP

Kathryn Henderson 04-08-36 'til death 10-03-01

	Betty Scurry (Inactive)	04-08-36 to 03-07-67
		&-01-03-83 to 05-28-11
	Virginia Kline (Transfer)	03-22-40 to 05-03-82
		& 03-05-85 'til death 02-12-09
Melvin Pierce		04-11-41 'til death 05-05-01
Vera George		04-05-50 'til death 08-22-03
Helen Harton		04-09-52 'til death 03-03-03
Grace Gibbons		04-06-55 to present
Clair Gibbons		04-06-55 'til death 02-14-10
Bradley Wetjen		04-11-56 to present
Florence Albright		01-31-57 to present
James Albright		01-31-57 to present
Lois Burns		04-28-57 to 03-07-67 (Inactive)
		& 06-06-67 to present
Willard Burns		05-05-57 to 03-07-67 (Inactive)
		& 06-06-67 to present
Ronald Walters		12-01-58 to present
Doreen Walters		04-05-59 to present
Janet Bish		04-10-60 to present
Donald Fox		04-14-60 to present
Linda Zeller		03-26-61 to present
Doris Feather		06-25-61 to present
<i>If you believe that someone has been omitted and should be honored, please advise the church office as soon as possible. Thank you.</i>		

MISSIONFEST distribution will be as follows:

Child Evangelism Fellowship, Seneca	\$760.00
Campus Crusade for Christ - Glenn & Kari Frantz, Black Forest Academy, Germany	\$760.00
One Mission Society - Joetta Lehman, Indianapolis	\$760.00
Seneca Hills Bible Camp & Retreat Center, Franklin	\$760.00
Venango Youth for Christ, Seneca	\$760.00
World Gospel Mission - Jim & Alice Vanderhoof, Kenya	\$760.00

MISSIONFEST THROUGH THE YEARS

As is evidenced by the following listing of net profits,

Missionfest has had its ups and downs over the years.

The constant factor remains - that when we work
together with Christ, we can do great things.

1984 - \$724.31	1998 - \$6,737.21
1985 - \$850.00	1999 - \$6,534.59
1986 - \$1,825.00	2000 - \$4,546.39
1987 - \$1,400.00	2001 - \$5,982.53
1988 - \$1,930.00	2002 - \$4,540.12
1989 - \$2,305.00	2003 - \$3,467.11
1990 - \$2,538.11	2004 - NO MISSIONFEST
1991 - \$3,583.22	2005 - NO MISSIONFEST

1992 - \$4,691.52	2006 - \$3,914.60
1993 - \$5,823.54	2007 - \$5,091.65
1994 - \$6,022.07	2008 - \$4,315.63
1995 - \$7,003.64	2009 - \$4,378.77
1996 - \$5,981.18	2010 - \$5,427.06
1997 - \$7,733.53	2011 - \$5,036.04

One elder writes “I love a good bargain!”

Session has been receiving questions on what we are going to do about the church’s finances; about more money going out than coming in. It has been pointed out that we cannot keep relying on the interest from the savings to make up the differences each month, especially since we will be using monies from the savings for the building repairs, which will decrease interest earned.

Some expenses have been cut in previous years. We have gone from a full time minister to a part time minister, a full time secretary to a part time secretary, and we have no paid youth leader anymore. There are not many more areas to cut.

My question is what are we, as a congregation, going to do about our situation? One answer could be to increase our giving.

When I first started attending church as an adult we would put in \$5.00, \$10.00, sometimes \$20.00 a week in the collection plate thinking that was enough. We were giving “what we could afford”. As time went on I started to realize that God has given us 100% of what we have, and all He asks is that we give back 10%. Once I made that realization, we started to tithe at least 10% every week. I did worry that it was going to cramp our lifestyle, but we tithe because that is what God is asking. Since we started to tithe the way we are suppose to, the most amazing thing happened...We did not miss that 10% at all. In fact, we seemed to have more. I am not saying that you should give to get. You should give because you

want to give, because it is what God wants us to do. But, it seems that when you give, you do receive. "God loves a cheerful giver".

I know people say, but times are tough, money is tight. Remember the story in the Bible, (Mark 12:42-44; Luke 21:1-4) where the widow puts her only two coins in the collection plate. Jesus noticed she had given all she had. God is not asking us to give all we have, just 10%. If you are not giving your 10%, please consider it, and pray about it. Jesus will notice. When we give our 10%, we get to keep 90%, and we also get to please our Lord and God. Sounds like a bargain to me, and I love a good bargain, don't you?

Debbie Dunlap, Elder

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 October 5th at Linda Lou's, 633 13th Street, Franklin. Call Mabel Mong at 432-5453 to make a reservation. Watch the Sunday bulletin for information of the next event on November 2, 2011.

COMMUNITY NEWS

ANOTHER MAN'S TREASURE DAY

WHERE: Hasson Heights Community Church

21 Fairview Avenue, Oil City, PA_

WHEN: October 15, 2011 -- 9 AM - 3 PM

It will feature a great variety of sale items. Come make your best offer. No donation is too small. There will also be homemade soup for sale for \$5 a quart. Please come and join us for a day when we share God's bounty.

SHOPPING TRIP!!!!!!

The Presbyterian Women of Second Presbyterian Church, Oil City, are organizing a bus trip to Ross Park Mall for Saturday, Nov. 5th. The cost is \$20.00 per person. The Colonial Tours bus will depart 111 Reed St, Oil City, at 8:00 a.m. and Ross Park at 6:00 p.m. To make a reservation, call Doris at 2nd Presbyterian - 676-8577 - or Sandy at 676-1756. See the bulletin board for additional information.

Approved Motions from the Session Meeting – September 12th

- **Minutes of the Session meeting on August 18, 2011**
- **Financial Secretary's report for the period ending August 31, 2011.**
- **Treasurer's checking account summary, budget year-to-date figures and financial report for August, 2011**
- **The following committee minutes: Missions, Outreach &**

Evangelism – August 22, 2011 -- Christian Education – August 15, 2011 -- Trustees – September 6, 2011 -- Congregational Life & Worship – September 6, 2011

- **The baptism of Makenzie Ann Yeager on September 4, 2011**
- **The use of the parking lot by Rocky Grove High School during the road resurfacing for use by parents picking up students after school**
- **The use of Moorhead Hall by Child to Family Connections on Thursday, September 15, 2011, and authorized the Pastor to approve future requests from this organization provided there is no conflict with church functions**
- **The authorization of the Pastor to administer baptism for children born to active members without additional Session approval**
- **The annual Congregational meeting to elect officers will be on November 20, 2011**

We will again be participating in Operation Christmas Child,

- **a ministry of Samaritan's Purse. Shoe boxes filled with small toys and other gifts are distributed to children in desperate situations worldwide. When the gifts are distributed a missionary tells the children the story of Jesus and often follows up with a Bible study called "The Greatest Journey" which encourages the children to grow in their faith. Boxes and brochures are available in the narthex. Collection will be November 14, 2011. Please pray and be thinking of what you can do to help**

children less fortunate have a happier Christmas as well as hear the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Remember this [writes the Apostle Paul]:

Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make grace abound to you, so that in all things, at all times, having all that you need you will abound in every good work.

2 Corinthians 9:6-8

Employee Performance Reviews -- Your Input is Requested

"The Personnel Committee will be conducting annual performance reviews of the Pastor, Church Secretary, Custodian, Organist and Assistant Organist in the near future. We would appreciate members of the congregation providing input for these performance reviews, by October 15th. Compliments, constructive criticism, and concerns will all be helpful. These should be submitted in writing to Jim Sandok, either placed into his mailbox near the church office or mailed to him at P.O. Box 346, Franklin. Please include your name so the Personnel Committee can follow up with you for clarification if needed."

Pastor Sue is planning for a new members' class in the near future. If you are interested in learning more about becoming a member of Rocky Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, please let her know.

RGAPC Financial Information

	September 2011	Year to Date
Congregational Giving	\$7,356.14	\$ 66,609.96
Expenses	\$6,603.02	\$ 76,158.66
Difference	\$ 753.12	-\$ 9,548.70

Please pray about increasing your level of giving to the ministry at

Rocky Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church.