

# *SONSHINE NEWSLETTER*

*A Publication of Rocky Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church*

*September 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*

## **MISSIONS CORNER:**

Missionfest is only a few short days away. The Missions Team has been working on getting things ready for the past few months.

We are now accepting garage sale items, which can be brought to the church during regular office hours. Brad and his crew have been here in the evenings for the past several weeks trying to get everything organized and priced. So, at this point, pre-pricing your items is essential. No items of clothing or footwear are accepted.

Used books can also be brought in for the book sale during office hours.

Baked goods can be brought to the church office on Friday, Sept. 7<sup>th</sup> during the day and evening until around 7 p.m. in the Youth Room.

The crafters would also appreciate any crafty items for their booth. Items can be brought to the church also during office hours.

If you haven't signed up to help in a booth yet, Rhonda Rust will gladly find a spot for you. You can see Joyce Wetjen, Joan Lepley, or Diane Whitman to help with Kids' Kingdom.

Set up starts on Friday evening (Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>) at 6:00 p.m. and Saturday morning (Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>) at 7:00 a.m. We would appreciate all the help we can get for set up and tear down. We realize at the end of the day on Saturday everyone is exhausted, but the more people who can stay to clean up the quicker everyone can get home to rest.

On Missionfest Sunday we will be able to come to church, sit back, relax and enjoy the musical message of The Pine Valley Boys. A love offering will be taken.

If you have any questions, please contact anyone on the Missions Team – Jim Speth, Jill Alden, Debbie Dunlap, John Klinger, Joan Lepley, Joyce Dillemath, Rhonda Rust, Joyce Wetjen or Diane Whitman.

We ask for your prayers for a beautiful day for Missionfest and that all goes smoothly, prayers for our sanity, if things don't go as expected, and last but not least prayers for another successful Missionfest – not for our glory, but for God's glory.

We would like to thank everyone in advance for all the support you continually give us; God has blessed us with a wonderful church family.

Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds, and praise your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:16

## Sunday School News

Join with old friends and new as we learn and grow in the love of Jesus Christ during Sunday School this fall at RGAPC. We will begin with a special "kick off" meeting for all ages in the sanctuary at 9:30 AM on Sunday, September 9th. The Christian Education Ministry Team is pleased to announce our fall Sunday classes:

0 - 3 year olds: we are working on providing nursery care for Sunday

School as well as during the worship service for this fall

4 - 6 year olds led by Pam Viele, meet in the Noah's Ark room

7 - 9 year olds led by Jim & Sarah Speth, meet in the Lion's Den

10- 12 year olds led by Diane Whitman, meet in the downstairs

classroom near the church office

Adults and Teens (Jr/Sr High, Men's Class & Women's Class):

Pastor Sue is teaching a class in September and October, titled "What's Going On in the PC(USA)?" Our culture is changing, and so is our denomination. In this class, we will explore and discuss some of the issues and trends in our culture and in our denomination - issues that challenge us to think and pray deeply about how we are to be faithful followers of Jesus Christ in a rapidly changing world. Topics will likely include (though not necessarily in this order):

- Where most differences arise: Interpreting Scripture
  - Is Jesus "the Way" - or just "our way" ?
  - Has "personal choice" become a form of idolatry?
  - The Importance of [Traditional] Marriage
  - What do we Truly Believe About the Holy Spirit?
  - A Brief (and possibly surprising) History of the Presbyterian Church in these United States

Don't forget to meet in the sanctuary (not the classrooms) for the Sunday School Kick-Off at 9:30 on September 9<sup>th</sup>. Because the Pine Valley Boys are playing during worship that day, Children's Church will start back up on September 16<sup>th</sup>. See you in class!

- *The Christian Education Ministry Team*

From the Pastor's Study:

Dear RGAPC family and friends,

Those of you who read the Derrick or News-Herald may have seen an article on August 25<sup>th</sup> by Rev. Scott Woodlee, the pastor of the Franklin Christian Missionary Alliance Church. As he was driving past a field of soybeans not long ago, he saw some stalks of corn poking up here and there above the low-growing soybeans. Even though corn is a valuable crop, *those* stalks were out of place, taking up nutrients needed by the main crop. In that sense they were simply weeds.

Pastor Scott uses this metaphor of corn among the beans to urge us to choose carefully what things we will allow to “grow” in our field in the different seasons of life. “By sowing our lives with too many crops (being involved in too many things) we end up creating a smaller yield. It is healthier and more productive to simplify and rotate our crops through the seasons.” He ends his article with the exhortation, “Let’s go weed-whacking!”

I’ve thought about this article a lot over the last few days. All of us – myself included – can benefit from the reminder that *busier* is not *better*. Too many activities, too many projects, can drain our energy and our focus. At the same time, let’s not make the mistake of just cutting out the more difficult or challenging things in life. Students might prefer texting friends to doing homework, but what is more valuable in the long run?

It might also be that we need to *add* something to our “field” of life. Some of us may need to add quality time to build strong relationships. Some may need to add exercise to keep our bodies strong and flexible. Some may need to add a time for quiet, to let the stresses and distractions of life fade into the background so we can more clearly sense the presence and guidance of God.

As summer moves toward fall, may the fields around us be a rich reminder that God is the master gardener. May all our choices glorify Him and be a lasting testimony to the redeeming grace He has poured out on us through Jesus Christ.

In His love,

PASTOR SUE

***OUR DAILY BREAD*** is a quarterly publication for personal and family inspirational devotions. The current issue, covering September, October and November 2012, is available in the Narthex and outside the church office. Large prints will be available soon for October, November & December. Feel free to take a copy and one for a friend too! If all are gone, please advise the church office.

## **HOLY HUMOR**

*(courtesy of Linda Zeller)*

A minister waited in line to have his car filled with gas just before a long holiday weekend. The attendant worked quickly, but there were many cars ahead of him. Finally, the attendant motioned him toward a vacant pump. "Reverend," said the young man, "I'm so sorry about the delay. It seems as if everyone waits until the last minute to get ready for a long trip." The minister chuckled, "I know what you mean. It's the same in my business."

People want the front of the bus, the back of the church, and the center of attention.

Sunday after church, a Mom asked her very young daughter what the lesson was about. The daughter answered, "Don't be scared, you'll get your quilt." Needless to say, the Mom was perplexed. Later in the day, the pastor stopped by for tea, and the Mom asked her what that morning's Sunday school lesson was about. She said "Be not afraid, thy comforter is coming."

When you carry the Bible, Satan gets a headache..... When you open it, he collapses.... When he sees you reading it, he faints..... And when he sees that you are living what you read, he flees.

## NOTES OF THANKS

To RGAPC,

Thank you so very much for my scholarship to help with my freshman year at Clarion University to study Business Administration. It is greatly appreciated.

*Ernie Pellow*

I want to thank my church friends for the lovely flowers, cards, and get well wishes. They certainly helped my spirits a lot. I got home yesterday (August 1) and am slowly gaining strength. Also, many thanks for the little throw knotted quilt. It came in so handy and had many compliments on it. Sincerely,

*Marie Cokain*

To My Dear Church Family and Friends,

Thank you for sending me a church bulletin. I miss you all so very much.

Everyone here [at the Caring Place] is nice to be with. I just remembered it is the 3<sup>rd</sup> of the month. I haven't paid my monthly way yet. Please remember Holly and me in your prayers. I want to stay here. I get mixed up, but I like everyone and pray daily for all. Happy Anniversary, Albrights.

In His Love,

*Joyce (Riddle)*

Hello,

I wanted to pass along my greatest thanks for the amazing generosity of my Rocky Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church family! Continuing my education is an amazing opportunity, and one that is made ever possible by the outstanding support of my church community. These past four years I have not been able to make it to my home church often, but I know their love and support is with me! I will soon be starting my senior year at Mercyhurst University, finishing my bachelors in Political Science International Relations with a minor in French and Strategic Communications, and while it did take some luck and skill on my part, I do thank my church family for being a pillar upon which I may lean on! I am both excited and scared for my senior year, but I know with a solid backing I can do anything I set my mind to.

Thanks so much for your support and thanks again for the scholarship!

Much love and blessings,

*Jeremy Dickey*

Dear Church Members,

Thank you so much for all your prayers and cards. They mean so much. I am finally home and hope to see you soon.

God bless,

*Joanne Brannon*

Thanks to all who donated items for the PA Work Wear program.

*The Deacons of RGAPC*

## **SERVANTS FOR SEPTEMBER**

**Hospital Visits:** Elder Debbie Dunlap

Deacon Diane Whitman

**Worship Leader:** Jim Sandok

**Ushers:** Gene Sheffer, Jim Speth and Diane Whitman

**Greeters:** September 2 Diane Whitman & family

9 Jim & Sarah Speth & children

16 Jim & Sheryl Clinefelter

23 Dave & Anne Brandt

30 The Hartmans

**Acolytes:** September 2 Paige Winder

9 Doug Songer

16 Austin Clark

23 Hanna Wielandt

30 Lillian Songer

**Nursery:** September 2 Molly Whitling

9 Joyce Dillemath

16 Sarah Speth

23 Diane Whitman

30 Malinda Lukers

Children's      September 16 Wayne Edmondson

Church:                      23 Pam Baughman

30 Diane Whitman

September Birthdays

1 Tammi Davis	14 Brian Friedrich
7 Amanda Hill	Bonnie Wielandt
8 Linda Zeller	15 John Klinger
11 Clair Speth	19 Alfred Pellow
13 Marge Sheffer	Paige Winder (2001)
14 Janet Bish	24 Grace Gibbons
Scott Donaldson	26 Lillian Songer (2003)
	Gerald Wendt

**RGAPC Financial Information**

	July 2012	Year to Date
Congregational Giving	\$ 8,952.75	\$ 57,539.84
Expenses	\$ 7,750.68	\$ 60,512.77
Difference	\$ 1,202.07	- \$ 2,972.93

*Detailed financial reports for August will be available in the narthex*



*beginning the second Sunday of the month.*

## **UPCOMING EVENTS AT RGAPC**

Men and women with YOUTHFUL SPIRITS gather for food and fellowship at noon the first Wednesday of each month. The SEPTEMBER event is on the 5<sup>th</sup>. Join in the fun at Bella Cucina, 1234 Liberty Street, Franklin. Please contact Ray & Toby Aikins (432-2726) by 9/4/12 if you plan to attend.

## **UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS**

The Iris Theatre

157 West Adams Street

Cochranton , PA 16314

"Where Community Responsibility and Entertainment Meet"

through September 5 <sup>th</sup>	Ice Age – Continental Drift
September 6 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup>	Diary of a Wimpy Kid – Dog Days

\* 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)

Mon through Thurs - 7:30

Fri & Sat - 7 & 9 PM

Sun - No shows unless otherwise noted

### **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 – August 13<sup>th</sup>:**

- Minutes of the regular Session Meeting of 16 Jul 12.

- **Financial Secretary's report for the period ending 31 July 12 and the following Treasurer's reports: checking account summary, budget year-to-date and Financial Report for July 2012.**
- **Minutes of the Congregational Life and Worship Ministry Team meeting on 30 Jul 12, Stewardship Ministry Team meeting on 5 Aug 12, Missions and Outreach Ministry Team meeting on 23 Jul 12, Trustee's Meeting on 6 Aug 12, and Aug 2012 Report on Administrative Activity.**
- **Pastor Sue's request for one week of study leave on 22, 23 and 24 Aug, 15, 16, 17 and 28 Oct 12, and for a week of vacation from 31 Oct through 7 Nov 12.**
- **Changes to the following sections of the Administrative Manual to meet current procedures and practices: Section 306 – Nominating Committee (these changes will be presented to the congregation during formal congregational meetings for their approval); Section 603 – Clerk of Session; Section 605 – Stewardship Ministry Team; Section 607 – Personnel Ministry Team; Section 620 – Financial Advisory Group (note: section eliminated because this group no longer exists); Section 902 – Shepherd; Section 1007 – Financial Secretary/Assistant Financial Secretary; Section 1101 – Funds; Section 1102 – Chart of Current Expense Accounts; and Section 1104 – Miscellaneous Policies.**
- **To transfer “in kind” the Horizon, Siefer Scholarship Fund and Moorhead Scholarship Fund Accounts from Stifel Nicolaus to Edward Jones.**
- **Permission to the Trustees to go forward with the project to install stair lifts along the stairs between Moorhead Hall and the landing on the west side of the building, and along the stairs between this same landing and the narthex.**
- **Two requests from the Boy Scouts Troop #28: 1) to conduct a fund-raising meal in Moorhead Hall on Sunday, 14 Oct 12, with setup Saturday evening and understanding that donations must be on a free-will basis rather than a set cost. and 2) to conduct a Christmas tree sale on 8 and 9 Dec 12 as long as they do not place the trees on the pavement.**