

# *SONSHINE NEWSLETTER*

## *September 2014*

*A Publication of Rocky Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church*



*"Sharing, Preparing and Caring in Jesus' Name"*

321 Rocky Grove Avenue, Franklin, PA 16323

Church Phone: 814-432-4162

Website: [www.rockygrovepres.org](http://www.rockygrovepres.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

Mike Burkhardt, Organist

Janet Bish, Assistant Organist

Scott Donaldson, Custodian

*Church Office Hours:*

*Wednesday & Thursday 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM*

## From the Pastor's Study

Dear RGAPC family and friends,

God through Holy Scripture has revealed to us that Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today and forever (Hebrews 13:8). He is the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End (Revelation 21:6). "End" can also be translated, "fulfillment." I find it wonderfully reassuring to realize that Jesus knows all about my past -- and loves me anyway; he knows everything I am going through today -- and he sends his Spirit to help me; and that I don't have to worry about the future, because Jesus will be there right beside me every step of the way. These are sure and certain promises available to all believers. We may feel the presence of Jesus more strongly at certain times than at others, but we can be at peace knowing that no matter what our feelings tell us, the fact is that nothing in all creation can separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans 8:39).

"No Jesus, No peace. *Know Jesus, know peace.*" Our world is filled with people who are hungering and thirsting and dying inside, all because they do not know the One who was born and lived and died and rose again – for them. One of the joys (and responsibilities) of the Christian life, is the joy of sharing Jesus Christ with other people. Maybe you don't think of yourself as an evangelist, but Missionfest is one time that everyone in the RGAPC church family can help share the Good News of God's grace in Jesus Christ.

Many of you are already planning to be at Missionfest on Saturday September 6<sup>th</sup>, and on Sunday Sept 7<sup>th</sup> at the special worship service with music by The Pine Valley Boys. Come – and bring a friend! Whether or not you can take part in this year's Missionfest, please be praying for good weather, a great turnout, and for many hearts to be touched by Jesus. And be sure to look through the rest of this newsletter so you know of important happenings in our church family this fall.

Love in the Lord,

Pastor Sue

**SEPTEMBER**  
**Birthdays**



7	Amanda Hill	14	Bonnie Wielandt
8	Linda Zeller	16	John Klinger
11	Clair Speth	19	Alfred Pellow
11	Theodore Feather (2013)	19	Paige Winder (2001)
13	Marge Sheffer	24	Grace Gibbons
14	Janet Bish	26	Lillian Songer (2003)
14	Scott Donaldson	26	Gerald Wendt

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**UPCOMING EVENTS AT RGAPC**

**Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> @ noon** - ***YOUTHFUL SPIRITS*** (men and women of any age) will gather for food and fellowship at ***Amazing Foods, 1327 Elk Street***. Dorie Feather will be the hostess; please inform her (437-5236) by September 1<sup>st</sup> if you plan to attend. Watch the Sunday bulletins for information on the October 1<sup>st</sup> gathering to be hosted by Melanie McGinnis.

**Saturday, October 11th @ 6:00 a.m.** – ***COLUMBUS DAY dinner*** – We will once again enjoy a ***mystery dinner!!!!*** The Congregational Life & Worship team will be providing the meal and serving it to you. The only hard part for those in attendance is to decipher the menu (as it will be GREEK to most) and possibly eating it with no utensil. . If you have never experienced a mystery dinner, you won't want to miss this event.

**Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup> – 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** – **Moorhead Hall** - Come experience the ***FALL VENDOR FAIR***. The Missions & Outreach team will be hosting this event. Numerous vendors will be displaying and selling their wares. Watch for more info in next month's issue and future bulletins.

**MISSIONFEST 2014 RECIPIENTS:**

- 1) **ABC PREGNANCY CENTER**
- 2) **CAMPING ASSOCIATION OF PRESBYTERIES OF LAKE ERIE (Camp Lambec & Westminster Highlands)**
- 3) **CHILD EVANGELISM FELLOWSHIP**
- 4) **FISHERMEN'S NETWORK/LIGHTHOUSE MINISTRIES**
- 5) **ONE MISSION SOCIETY (Joetta Lehman)**
- 6) **SENECA HILLS BIBLE CAMP & RETREAT CENTER**
- 7) **UNITED WORLD MISSION (Robert & Nina Bruneau)**
- 8) **VENANGO YOUTH FOR CHRIST**
- 9) **WORLD GOSPEL MISSION (Jim & Alice Vanderhoof)**
- 10) **FUTURE WORK TRIPS**

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## Christian Education News

*Sunday School will start on Sunday, September 14. On that date, all children, adults and teachers will meet in the sanctuary for Promotion Sunday at 9:30 a.m., and the children will be assigned to their new classes. Please be there on time for this important event.*

*The Christian Education Ministry Team has been working on exciting Sunday School classes for this new school year. New curriculum has been purchased for all classes. There are several classes for our children: Malinda Lukers will teach children ages 3 through 5, Sarah and Jim Speth will teach children ages 6 through 8, Diane Whitman will teach children ages 9 through 11, and Wayne Edmondson will teach children ages 12 through 18. Sheryl Clinefelter will teach the women's class and George Wielandt will be teaching the men's class.*

*Sunday School is a wonderful opportunity for everyone to learn more about God and how He wants us to live. Please contact George Wielandt, Wayne Edmondson or Pastor Sue Nageotte if you have any questions or need more information about Sunday School.*

*Finally, Children's Church will also return on Sunday, September 14.*

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*Do you ever wonder where your monetary donation goes when given to the Deacons? Wonder no more! Not only does it pay for funeral luncheons, items for baby baskets that are given out to people in the community, and gifts and cards for the shut-ins; but so much more! The Deacons make quarterly donations to Community Services to help with the needs of those in the community. Sometimes special circumstance requests come through a Deacon and funds are used to buy fuel in winter months or even toiletry items for our fellow brothers and sisters. They also have a Deacon's fund to take care of the essential needs of the members of the church! So now that you know more about where the "loose offering" goes on every 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday, will you be increasing your donation?*

## REPORT OF SPECIAL SESSION MEETING

On August 24th the Session met with the Stewardship Ministry Team and with Merralee Obenrader, our Financial Adviser with Edward Jones. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss withdrawing funds from the Horizon Account of RGAPC to replenish the Current Fund in the church checking account, which has been falling low and needed to be replenished due to paying the annual insurance premium for the church building and contents. However, at the Session meeting that was held prior to meeting with Merralee, we talked about the per capita that had not been paid to the Presbytery of Lake Erie during the ten years prior to 2014. (During the span of 10 years, only those funds that were received in the Per Capita envelopes were forwarded to Lake Erie Presbytery.) In a thoughtful and extensive discussion, Session members were unanimous that it was only right and proper for the last ten years' of unpaid per capita to be paid to the Presbytery of Lake Erie, regardless of whether the congregation votes to be dismissed from the PCUSA or to stay. If the congregation chooses to leave the PCUSA, we will have to pay the per capita deficit. If the congregation decides to stay, we want to show that we understand and respect our denominational obligations. By **motion**, second and vote, Session approved 1) paying the per capita that was not paid during the past ten years prior to 2014 in the total amount of \$24,341.48, as soon as practical; 2) paying the full per capita amount for 2014; and 3) if the congregation remains with the PCUSA, to fulfill our full per capita obligation in future years. Our lack of payment during those ten years resulted in the other churches in the Presbytery of Lake Erie having to make up our share of the per capita. Therefore, Session members voted to withdraw a total of \$32,000.00 from the Total Return Interest of \$39,948.02 that has been received thus far in 2014. If you have any questions regarding this transaction, please contact Joyce Wetjen or Don Yount, Session members of the Stewardship Ministry Team.

## **FROM THE SESSION**

Approved Motions from the Session Meeting – August 11, 2014:

- The minutes of the regular Session Meeting of 14 Jul 2014.
- The minutes of the Special Session Meeting of 3 Aug 2014.
- To instruct Edward Jones, the company in charge of our investments, to take 50% of the interest from the Horizon Account and place it into the current fund until further notice.
- The Financial Secretary's report for the period ending 31 Jul 2014 and the following Treasurer's reports: the checking account summary, the budget year-to-date figures and the Financial Report for Jul 2014.
- Received the minutes of the Christian Education Ministry Team meetings on 28 Jul 2014 and 5 Aug 2014, the Congregational Life and Worship Ministry Team meeting on 4 Aug 2014, the Missions and Outreach Ministry Team meeting on 28 Jul 2014, the Shepherds' Committee meeting on 16 Jul 2014, the Trustees meeting on 4 Aug 2014, and the Administrative Activity report 14 Jul 2014 through 11 Aug 2014.
- The following recommendation: Having thoroughly researched available options, if a sufficient number of members vote to leave the Presbyterian Church (USA), Session recommends that we go to the Evangelical Covenant Order of Presbyterians as the best fit for our congregation.
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## **IMPORTANT Information Meetings Scheduled**

Session has scheduled two very important "town hall" style meetings to bring the church family up to date on conversations with the Presbytery Resolution Team related to the possibility of RGAPC leaving the PC(USA) to join another reformed denomination. The first town hall meeting will be held immediately after a short worship service on Sunday, September 21st. The second town hall meeting will be at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, Sept 24th. Both meetings are in the sanctuary. People currently listed on RGAPC's "Roll of Active Members" will be mailed a letter (approximately Sept 10th) with further details. While it is EXTREMELY IMPORTANT for all active members to participate in at least one of the two meetings, all RGAPC members, family and friends are welcome to attend.

## **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. 5<sup>h</sup>) at 6:00 p.m. and Saturday morning (Sept. 6<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.

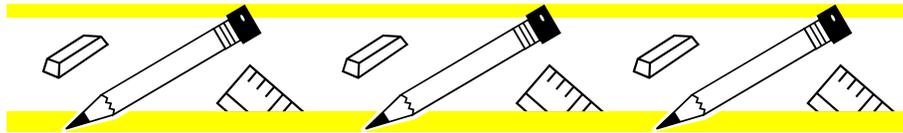
On Missionfest Sunday (Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>) we will be able to come to church, sit back, relax and enjoy the musical message of The Pine Valley Boys. A love offering will be taken.

If you have any questions, please contact anyone on the Missions Team – Phyllis Wetzel, Joyce Pellow, Jill Alden, John Klinger, Joan Lepley, 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**



## SERVANTS FOR SEPTEMBER

- Hospital Visits:** Phyllis Vogan & Joyce Wetjen
- Worship Leader:** Sheryl Clinefelter
- Ushers:** Harold Bell, Kevin Songer, Jessica Songer,  
Kevin Songer & Diane Whitman
- Greeters:** 7 Don & Doris Yount  
14 Ben, Sarah & Emily DeLong  
21 Floyd & Debbie Dunlap  
28 Diane Whitman & Lillian Songer
- Acolyte:** 7 Lillian Songer  
14 Arika Songer  
21 Carson Whitting  
28 James Hoffman
- Counters:** 7 Wayne Edmondson & another Elder  
14 George Wielandt & Don Yount  
21 Lois Pierce & Joyce Wetjen  
28 Wayne Edmondson & another Elder
- Children's Church:** Malinda Lukers & Sarah Speth  
(9/14 thru 10/5)

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### WEDDING BELLS WILL BE RINGING!

Ted and Tammi Davis are pleased to share the joyful news that their son, Jason, is being married on *September 6th* to his lovely fiancée, Andrea Marshall.

### **RGAPC Financial Information of Current Income & Expenses**

	<b>July 2014</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>
Income – Envelope Giving	\$ 7,206.00	\$ 47,801.15
Presby Foundation Interest	416.88	1,725.08
Other Sources	5.12	2,792.55
Expenses	<u>-13,872.78</u>	<u>- 64,065.78</u>
Difference	- \$ 6,244.78	- \$11,747.00

*August financial reports will be available in the narthex  
beginning the second Sunday of September.*

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## **Thank You**

Dear Friends at Rocky Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church,

Community Services of Venango County would like to thank you for the donation of miscellaneous toiletries, laundry detergent, cleaning and paper supplies as well as baby items. They will bring help to countless families that need our assistance this year.

*Mary Jeanne Gavin*

RGAPC,

Thank you for your help in letting us attend camp this year.

*The Songer Kids*

*(Actual cards can be found on the bulletin board  
at the bottom of the stairway leading to the balcony)*

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### **UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS**

**September 13<sup>th</sup>** – 9:15 am – 4:15 pm -- Oil City Community Alliance Church, 411 Seneca Street, Oil City, will host a live simulcast of “Living Proof.” Experience Beth Moore’s dynamic event. Additional information available at [www.occachurch.com/bethmooresimulcast](http://www.occachurch.com/bethmooresimulcast)

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Newsletter articles are usually due in the church office by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month or risk being omitted from the upcoming publication! (For the month of September only, the ABSOLUTE DEADLINE will be the 22<sup>nd</sup>. PLEASE DO NOT REQUEST ANY EXTENSIONS. Thank you.)

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# SEPTEMBER 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b> <i>Labor Day</i>	<b>2</b> 6:30 Sweet Adelines (Sanctuary)	<b>3</b> NOON Youthful Spirits @ <i>Amazing Foods</i>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> <i>MISSIONFEST</i> 10:00 to 3:00
<b>7</b> 10:45 Worship – <i>Pine Valley Boys</i> 5:30 Boy Scouts	<b>8</b> 6:00 CLAW (Congregational Life & Worship) 7:00 Trustees	<b>9</b> 6:30 Sweet Adelines	<b>10</b> 10:00 Quilting @ 1 <sup>st</sup> Presbyterian 6:30 Bible Study	<b>11</b> 8:00 – 10:00 Venango County Services meeting	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 8:30 Women’s Prayer breakfast @ King’s 9:30 Overeaters Anonymous
<b>14</b> 9:30 Sunday School Promotion (meet in sanctuary) 10:45 Worship (Children’s Church) 5:30 Boy Scouts	<b>15</b> 6:15 Session	<b>16</b> 4:00 Presbytery meeting in Bradford 6:30 Sweet Adelines	<b>17</b> 6:30 Bible Study	<b>18</b> <i>OFFICE CLOSED</i> <i>(Church Secretary vacation day)</i>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 9:30 Overeaters Anonymous
<b>21</b> 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship Noon (after worship) <i>“Dismissal Information Meeting”</i>	<b>22</b> 6:30 Christian Education  <i>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</i>	<b>23</b> 6:30 Sweet Adelines	<b>24</b> 6:30 <i>“Dismissal Information Meeting”</i>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 9:30 Overeaters Anonymous
<b>28</b> 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship 5:30 Boy Scouts	<b>29</b> 6:30 Missions & Outreach	<b>30</b> 6:30 Sweet Adelines				