

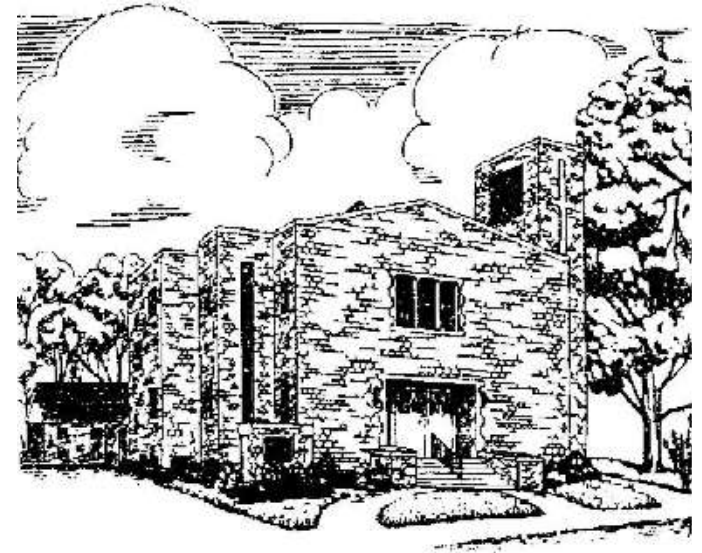
Rocky Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church
321 Rocky Grove Avenue
Franklin, PA 16323



SONSHINE NEWSLETTER

December 2015

A Publication of Rocky Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church



“Sharing, Preparing and Caring in Jesus’ Name”

321 Rocky Grove Avenue, Franklin, PA 16323

Phone: 814-432-4162

Website: www.rockygrovepres.org

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

Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.

Worship – 10:45 a.m.

Rhonda Rust, Secretary

Mike Burkhardt, Organist

Janet Bish, Assistant Organist

Scott Donaldson, Custodian

Church Office Hours:

Tuesday & Wednesday 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM

Thursday 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM

A PAGE FOR MISSIONS

I don't know about you, but I have been asking myself "Where has this year gone?" It's that time of year again that we share with those less fortunate, and for the Missions & Outreach Ministry Team that means the **Christmas Joy Offering**. There will be donation envelopes in the church pews until the Christmas Eve service. If you are writing a check, please make it payable to RGAPC and note "Christmas Joy Offering" on the memo line in the bottom left corner of your check.

We would like to thank you for your generous support of the Missions projects that have been presented in 2015. We are truly blessed at RGAPC to have a loving church family that answers the call to "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." We pray that you will have a very Merry Christmas celebrating the birth of Jesus and a wonderful 2016.

Your Missions & Outreach Ministry Team:

*Diane Whitman, Moderator Jane Beach, Elder Rhonda Rust, Trustee
Joyce Wetjen Linda Zeller*



Operation Christmas Child: Five (5) shoeboxes for the ministry of Samaritan's Purse were collected during November and sent for distribution worldwide. Thanks to those who participated. That's five more children who have a chance to feel the love & prayers sent with the boxes and, hopefully, come to know Jesus in a personal way.

In order to have more boxes to send to Samaritan's Purse in 2016, we are changing the process of the program. The Missions & Outreach committee is assuming this project and making it a year-round ministry. Each month, beginning in January and ending in September, items will be requested for the boxes. In October, shoe boxes (cardboard or plastic) and cash to cover the \$7 per box will be requested; and, in November we will have a shoebox packing party after a luncheon on a Sunday afternoon. (The football season will determine which Sunday of course.) So, prepare for the first items for collection in January – small stuffed animals. A box will be in the narthex for collection.

RGAPC Financial Information

	October 2015	Year to Date
Income – Envelope Giving	\$ 2,425.00	\$ 33,228.06
Presby Foundation Interest	393.72	1,598.04
Edward Jones Transfers		24,000.00
Other Sources	60.03	2,224.29
Expenses	- 4,345.41	- 72,454.77
Difference	- \$ 1,466.66	- \$ 11,404.38

Detailed November financial reports will be available in the narthex beginning the second Sunday of December.

END OF YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS – Any contributions you wish to make to the church and have credited for the 2015 fiscal year should be made by Sunday, December 27, 2015. It's not too late to pay the **2015 per capita** amount which is **\$29.50** per RGAPC member. Be sure to clearly mark your check or envelope as "2015 PER CAPITA."

2016 OFFERING ENVELOPES

2016 offering envelopes will be available for pickup beginning December 6th. Please do not use them until January 3rd. Any contributions received in 2015 will be credited to 2015 even if in a 2016 envelope!

SPECIAL NEED!

Unity Presbyterian Church (near Mercer) is in need of material for homemade rugs. If you have clothing or unused material, especially polyester, that you would like to donate, please contact the office – 432-4162.

Newsletter articles are due in the church office by the 20th of each month. The January newsletter will be published for distribution the week of January 4, 2015.



SERVANTS FOR DECEMBER

<u>Hospital Visits:</u>	Linda Zeller & Margie Sheffer
<u>Ushers:</u>	Kennedy Hartman, Konner Hartman, Linda Hartman and Reagan Hartman
<u>Greeters:</u>	6 The Hartman family 13 Rhonda Rust & Linda Zeller 20 Betty Cornmesser & Lois Pierce 24 Brad & Joyce Wetjen 27 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
<u>Lighters:</u>	6 Brad & Joyce Wetjen 13 The Songer family 20 The Hartmans 24 Rhonda Rust & family 27 Arika Songer
<u>Counters:</u>	6 Linda Hartman & Lois Pierce 13 Diane Whitman & Linda Zeller 20 Linda Hartman & Diane Whitman 24 Lois Pierce & Linda Zeller 27 Diane Whitman & Linda Zeller
<u>Pulpit Supply:</u>	6 Rev. Dale Francis 13 Rev. Dale Francis 20 Rev. Ron Reagle 24 Rev. Ron Reagle 27 Rev. Lori Danielson



The Giving Tree



This Christmas season, the Deacons are helping a family in our area. The names of the family members will be available on the Giving Tree in the Narthex through December 13, 2014. Choose a tag, purchase the gift and return the wrapped gift with the tag on top by December 20th. We are so blessed; let us bless others. Monetary donations may be given to Dorie Feather to purchase items on tags not selected.

FROM THE SESSION

Approved Motions from the Session Meeting – November 16, 2015:

- The minutes of the Session Meeting of October 19, 2015
- The October financial reports of the Financial Secretary and Treasurer
- The minutes of the Board of Trustees, Missions & Outreach Ministry Team and Congregational Life & Worship Committee
- The Report of Administrative Activity since last Session meeting
- The change to the Administrative Manual to allow two consecutive three-year terms for the office of Elder, Deacon and Trustee followed by one year off before that person may be elected to the same office
- The payment in full of the 2015 Per Capita \$3,746.50 (less payments made by members)
- The rejection of the offer from Bluehost (web site provider) to renew now at the current rate (going up 12/1/15) rather than waiting until June 2017.
- The approval to purchase a laser color all-in-one for the price of up to \$600 to be paid from Zeiler Memorial Funds of \$393.72 and the remainder from the General Fund.

NOTE: There will be no Session meeting in December. The next meeting will be January 18, 2016.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT RGAPC

Wednesday, December 2nd - Men and women with **YOUTHFUL SPIRITS** gather for food and fellowship at noon the first Wednesday of each month. Join in the fun at **Amazing Foods**, 1327 Elk Street. Make your reservation with Grace Gibbons or leave a message at 432-4388 by 11/30/15. All are welcome!! Next month's gathering will be on January 6th. Watch Sunday bulletins for additional information.

Saturday, December 5th – 6:00 p.m. – Christmas Dinner - Linda Lou's Restaurant, 1542 Mercer Road, Franklin. If you did not make your reservation by November 22nd, contact the office for information. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve – 7:00 p.m. - Candlelight Service; invite your friends!

Saturday, January 9th – 10:00 a.m. -- “Unhanging of the Greens” –
PLEASE COME AS MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK

The Three Wise Women

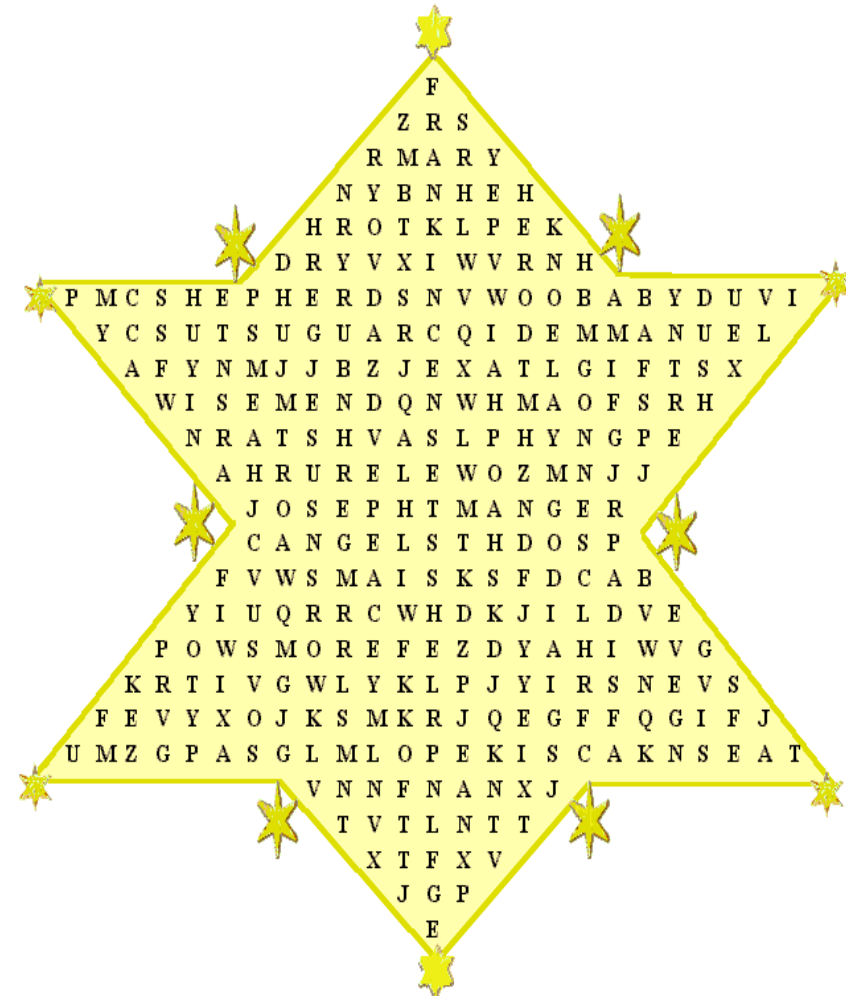
You do know what would have happened if it had been three wise WOMEN instead of men, don't you? They would have asked for directions, arrived on time, helped deliver the baby, cleaned the stable, made a casserole, and brought disposable diapers as gifts!



We extend Christian sympathy to Judy Ream and family in the passing of her husband, Ken, on Tuesday, November 24, 2015. Huff Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.



His Birth



Angels

Augustus

Baby

Bethlehem

Elisabeth

Emmanuel

Frankincense

Gifts

Gold

Herod

Inn

Jesus

Joseph

Manger

Mary

Myrrh

Nativity

Noel

Peace

Promise

Savior

Shepherds

Star

Swaddling

Taxes

Virgin

Wisemen



THANK YOU

I want to thank everyone who wished me a happy birthday; I received a lot of cards. It is much appreciated. *Margaret Wielandt*

Congregation/Corporation Meeting and Soup Luncheon on November 15, 2015



The Annual Meeting of the Congregation & Corporation was held Sunday, November 15th in the sanctuary with Rev. Lori Danielson moderating. **Elders** elected are: – **Elissa Stuttler** and **Joyce Wetjen** (3-year terms); and **Lois Pierce** and **Diane Whitman** (1-year terms). There are 2 vacancies – 1 each for 2-year and 3-year terms. **Deacons** elected are: **Doris Feather** and **Beth Blanchard-Hartman** (3-year term). There are 3 vacancies – 1 each for 3-year, 2-year and 1-year terms. **Trustees:** **John Dumbleton** and **Brad Wetjen** (3-year terms); and **Arnie Bish** (2-year term). There are 3 vacancies – 1 for each of the terms. **Auditor:** **Gene Sheffer**. **Presbyterian Home Reps:** **Jim & Flo Albright** and **Gene & Marge Sheffer**. **Nominating Committee:** **Rhonda Rust**, **Marge Sheffer**, and **Linda Zeller**. There are 2 vacancies for Nominating Committee from the congregation. The 2016 budget as approved by Session on October 19th was presented. Thanks to the Nominating Committee for all their hard work. John Dumbleton, moderator of Trustees, gave a report of work performed in the past year and what is planned for 2016.

The meeting was followed by a luncheon of potato, chicken noodle, broccoli & cheddar, chili and stuffed pepper soups. The soups were all homemade and donated as were the rolls, crackers, and cookies. Thanks to all. No one went home hungry that's for sure.

December Birthdays



1 Kassidy Clark	20 Daniel Wetzel
6 Rhonda Rust	20 Jacob Wetzel
15 Savanna Lukers (2009)	25 Joshua Wargo
19 Jim Speth	29 Mike Burkhardt

JANUARY Birthdays



1 Sierra Cook	15 Madeleine Wielandt
4 Judy Sandok	20 Lois Pierce
5 Elissa Stuttler	20 Konner Hartman
11 Aaron Weltner	23 Patti Phillips
11 Jessica Songer	24 Brooke Brannon
12 Charlotte Pellow	26 Mike Hartman
13 Alisha Newton	27 Anden Hill (2)
	29 Joshua Kirwin (16)

Marie Wendt departed November 14th, to spend the winter in Florida at her family's request. Correspondence may still be sent to 336 Miller Road, Franklin, to be forwarded by the postal service.

LET HIM IN



There was no room for Christ in crowded Bethlehem
Only a star beneath the heaven's diadem.
How many times since then has He been turned aside?
His pleas to enter in impatiently denied.
He asks no garnished room, no chamber set apart,
But just the simple gift of shelter in your heart.

by Marjorie Hunt Petit



December 2015



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 6:30 Sweet Adelines Practice	2 Noon <i>Youthful Spirits</i> @ Amazing Foods 6:30 Missions & Outreach meeting	3	4	5 9:30 Overeaters Anonymous
6 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship	7 6:00 CLAW meeting 7:00 Trustees meeting	8 6:30 Sweet Adelines practice	9 6:00 Shepherds' Christmas Party @ Albright's (take covered dish & \$5 for Giving Tree)	10	11	12 8:30 Women's Prayer breakfast - Linda Lou's 9:30 Overeaters Anonymous
13 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship 5:30 Boy Scouts – Christmas Party & Court of Honor	14 6:00 CE meeting	15	16	17	18	19 9:30 Overeaters Anonymous
20 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship <i>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</i>	21 6:15 Session	22 6:30 Sweet Adelines practice	23	24 7:00 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 	25 	26 9:30 Overeaters Anonymous
27 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship	28	29 6:30 Sweet Adelines practice	30	31	